



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



To: Mary Kirkwood, Commodore

7 July 2020

Cc: District Board and Staff

From : Lewis C Derfuss, Division Commander

Division: 5

HIGHLIGHTS/"3 UPS":

1. Continue checking on Health and wellbeing of our members during Corina Virus Pandemic
2. **Diversity NACO 3 Star Award**
3. Continue planning for future events and fellowship that we may able to execute once we are out of Corina Virus Pandemic. In the meantime we continue to promote the excellent Webinar Training being offered. We were able to get some life jackets out to loaner stations provided by Sea Tow Foundation via contactless drop off.

DETAILS:

1. FC's and VFC's continue to regular checks on their membership due to Corona Virus and advising leadership, if possible, of any affected members. Also forwarded to all members updated information from leadership on help available through CG Mutual Assistance Fund
2. Last month it was highlighted that our District was in last place for submission of Diversity NACO 3 Star Award submissions. I knew we had some Flotillas working on them and did some follow-up. With the help of Randy McCormick DCATP, FSO-DV 53 and SO-DV 5, the FC's, VFC's and FSO-DV we were able to submit 3 Award packages that we accepted. Bravo Zula to the Division 5 team with 3 of 5 Flotillas submitting approved award packages. I can't say enough to appreciate their efforts!!!
3. We still hope to have our rescheduled luau, on 6 Aug our normal Division Meeting date, to hold a division wide Diversity Event—the annual Luau is at my house. Uniform will be Hawaiian Dress and will include Hula Dancers and more. This will be a potluck of your favorite dishes with Hog Dogs, Polish and Italian Sausage, Cheeseburgers and Watermelon provided.
We were anticipating being able to start limited low risk operations shortly our priority will be completing bridge surveys and PATONS as well as support of Stations Vallejo, Bodega Bay and Rio Vista as authorized but new approved guidance still hasn't been received. We still have a division 5 OPTREX hosted by Flotilla 55 at Bodega Bay on Sept 25-26 however the longer the stand down continues the more challenging it will be getting Crew candidates ready as it looks like we will only have a short period of time depending on when we will be authorized to resume training patrols. We are thankful for the many webinar training opportunities we have and are continuing to encourage members to take advantage of these training opportunities. Additionally, Past DCAPT Curtis Han with assistance from Ray Tanaka also of FL 52 have provided numerous AUXDATA II Training Webinars. Bravo Zulu to Curtis and Ray!!

PROJECTS:

1. We have scheduled Division 5 --2020 COW for 5 Dec, on District calendar and talked with TRACEN Petaluma CMDR Captain Ramassimi and have all the wheels turning with his staff and Aux Food Services to make this an outstanding COW. We are still planning on a Fall OPTREX hosted by FL 55 at Sta Bodega Bay 25-26 Sep
2. Our Division has several flotillas applying for NACO 3 Star Award. We also got an invite from Golden Bear staff thru Glenn Marshall a 53 member who now works at CA Maritime Academy to take members on a guided tour of the Golden Bear—we are working on a date that works with Golden Bear's sailing schedule. All plans are tentative and subject to change due to Corina Virus.

3. SeaTow Foundation approved our application for the 2020 grant for Loaner Life Jackets for Brannan Island, Sandy Beach, and Suisun Launch Ramp. Glenn Marshall is the Coordinator for this project. In a civilian Capacity-not in uniform Life jacket dropped off via contactless drop off to facility managers in an effort to provide resources to save lives.
4. Wade MacAdam our FSO-CS 53, SO-CS 5 and SO-PB 5 has continued to work on website and social media updates as well as publishing Division 5 Newsletter. Great Job Wade!!

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES/OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Corona Virus restrictions and related issues
2. Focus on individual Flotilla strengths and combined and open up and communicate training opportunities among Flotilla's, combining efforts to achieve maximum results
3. Hopefully we will soon have some relaxing of Corvia 19 restrictions so we can start playing catch up to preform program activities working towards our 2020 goals.
4. FC 52 Glenn Hunter put together and presented two excellent presentations- one a National Diversity PowerPoint Presentation and the other was US Coast Guard on D Day June 6 1944 at Flotilla 52 Virtual meeting
5. Even though we are in Stand Down mode we can still apply our outstanding skills as a Good Sam. Case in point. Past DCAPT Wil Sumner while vacationing on Lake Siskiyou. Wil and family rented a pontoon boat when they came upon two teenagers ,with NO life jackets, swimming in the middle of the lake struggling to catch up with their inflatable raft that the wind was skipping across the water. Wil and family pulled them in and delivered them to the swim area. The local sheriff informed them that three people have drowned so far this year from the same issue. The next morning, while on a walk, they came across a lady laying on her side at the bottom of a steep bank. When asked if she was ok, she replied that her leg/ankle was hurting and could be broken. Wil's son returned to the RV and called 911 and returned to Wil with first aid equipment (splints and bandages). Local fire and sheriff arrived and transported the lady to the local hospital. Bravo Zulu to Will and Family!!
6. USCG SK1 Linda Bashqoy received her Flotilla 55 commemorative challenge coin for years of outstanding commitment to FL 55

AGENCY INTERACTION:

1. After we get through Corona Virrus Issues we will continue working closely with Sta Vallejo and Station Bodega Bay staff in providing Operational Support with Joint Patrols to support both CG Station and Division Boat Crew Training, Qualification, and Currency by providing AUXFAC's and Crews upon request as well as routine support to AOR in ways to maximize training with limited budgeted funds
2. We now have Auxiliary Unit Coordinators at Station Vallejo-, Michael Ungersma, Station Bodega Bay- Wil Sumner, and TRACEN-, Ray VanCleave and I have added them to Division Agenda so they can keep us updated on any important information.
3. We have at least two members supporting TRACEN. 55 member Ray Vancleave works with Security and 53 member Rene Steinhauser works at the Medical Center

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Most have been previously highlighted in this report: To summarize: Retain, attract, train members. Increase support to CG Missions by use of increased qualified members working toward some focused goals. Have Fun in doing the above and Fellowship. Addressing and working towards breaking down the barriers working against our success. Lead Division 5 to be know as the Premier Division. Strive to win NACO 5 Star award across the Division

PHOTO GALLERY None to share this month.