

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

MONTH ENDING: 30 September 2020
TO: DCO Mary Kirkwood
FROM: DCDR 03 Russ Kaiser

Highlights:

- 3-1: FC Bernard Brown: **Highlights:** * Preparing for Elections and COW. Preparing to appoint FSO positions for 2021
- 3-3: FC Nancy Holtzman: Highlights: Webinar meeting 15 members in attendance
Electronic elections were held, Congratulations to FC Rudy Rutenschroer and FVC Gary Estep they are our newly elected officers for 2021.
Huge THANK YOU to Greg Oshel for being our election webmaster. Lots of feedback from members that it was well set up and easy to navigate.
Thank you to IPDCR Jeff Fite for being out Division representative for the election. Also for giving a great Intro to Marine Safety presentation and slide show and all the programs that fall under this category.
- 3-5: FC Greg Van Koersel: Highlights: Elections were held during the monthly flotilla meeting (which was held virtually). Greg Van Koersel and Fred Black were re-elected as FC and VFC respectively.
- 3-10: FC Larry Stanton: Highlights: Meeting held via web.
Ongoing discussions related to need for FC nominee. No offers. Referred to Division for guidance/resolution.
Discussed District training web site. Members are taking advantage of On-Line opportunities. Members attended Ops Workshop on line. Good refresher.
Practice sessions continue for D11-CCNET. Test set for 10-24 at 0930.
OPTREX and Air Show on hold or cancelled.
Aux Data Training records send out for review by Bob Waterman, thank you Bob.
District Officers announced to all.
Announced passing of BMC Ernie Costa, guest of 3-10 for Vets Day Parade. Ernie enjoyed the relationship with the Aux.
Noted requirement for Blood Borne Pathogens now required for MT.
Aux OP classes can now be taken on line.
3-10 ordered 10 Boating America course books for instructors to review.
- SO-CM Larry Stanton: D11 CCNET RTX training (on the air) took place over several days with D11 North members prior to test on 10-24. The HF/VHF support test was conducted on 10-24 from Sectors and Air Stations from Southern California to Humboldt Bay. The test was completed with an approximately 80 percent success. HF propagation created a loss of signal path to allow the last station (Air Station Sacramento) to complete their test. CDR. Graham impressed with the Auxiliary Communications capabilities. We will continue to build upon this experience. Many thanks to Carol Paz, Bob Torio, Jimmin Chang, Gil Gin, Kevin Sellstrom, Peter Todebush, Steven Busch and Desmond Thorsson for stepping up and taking on this significant commitment. Event summary will be published soon
- SO-AUC CG Station Rio Vista-Steve Harrison:
Highlights:

* Station Rio Vista OIC BMC Bennet informed me the CG Reservists are back operational "for the most part", whatever that means. That CG Sector San Francisco is into Phase II for reopening. He has no information regarding AUX activities. I think annoying DIRAUX Bosn for u/w patrol orders might help move things along.

Activity Details:

* CG Station Rio Vista conducted 16 SAR cases. The average October SARs over the last 14 years is 15 with 2008 seeing 32. The high number of SAR cases in 2007 thru 2011 is due to the drought limiting boating activity in the lakes forcing folks to come to the delta. The Station conducted 12 vessel boardings. The average October boardings for the last 08 years is 30 with 2014 seeing 68.

Current Projects:

* Auxiliary Unit Coordinator (AUC) for CG Station Rio Vista for D11. I contact the Station by phone weekly for a SitRep as Auxiliary are not permitted on the Station. For the last eight months there has been nothing to coordinate. I expect this to continue for the rest of the year and well into 2021.

* Doug MacPherson began working with BMC Bennet to schedule a Boating Season Kickoff class at the Rio Vista CG Station this spring. This is the training session for Auxiliary members that was canceled this past spring due to the COVID Virus.

- SO-CS Ernest Shih: Division 3: No new development.
Flotilla 3-1: No report.
Flotilla 3-3: No report.
Flotilla 3-5: Posted latest addition of the Delta Zephyr.
Flotilla 3-10: No new development.
- SO-AS Gary Estep: No activity to report.
- SO-FN David Wright: report filed
- SO-NS James Duncan: Highlights: Covid-19 Phase 1 now in place and some Auxiliary activities have been approved.
Details: As of 10 July COVID-19 Phase 1 in place and Navigation Systems PATON Verifications & Bridge Surveys activities from LAND ONLY has been approved. .
Recording & Tracking Bridge, PATON, AUXDATA 1 & 2, Chart & Coast Pilot Updating activities this month.
Flotilla 35 has completed 14 of 15 Bridge Surveys (93%) under the Assignment to Duty approval by OIA/DIRAUX. (AUXDATA 1 & 2 shows 15 Bridges surveyed to date.
Flotilla 35 has completed 24 of 32 PATONs Verifications (75%) under the Assignment to Duty approval by OIA/DIRAUX. (AUXDATA 1 & 2 shows 33 PATONs to date.
Flotilla 35 had 1 Assignment to Duty Mission 31 & 32 activities in October
Flotilla 35 has three 3 certified AV-PQS Aid Verifiers, James B. Duncan, Fredric R. Black & Douglas W. MacPherson.
Flotilla FSO-NS Monthly Report to Division SO-NS.
- SO-FS Nancy Holtzman: No FS activity to report for October.
- SO-IS Robert "Bob" Waterman: Highlights: I have only one item to report for October. At the request of Jim Duncan, I developed a tutorial for producing reports in AUXDATA II. I will be happy to provide this document to interested members upon request.
Tomorrow night I will attend an 11th District IS officer's webinar where the latest upgrades to AUXDATA II will be presented. If any significant changes are discussed in that meeting, I will be happy to issue a supplemental, yet late, report.
- SO-MA Vacant (VDCDR Don Anderson submitting reports): Flotilla 3-5: Materials for Boat America class received and distributed.
- SO-MS Jeff Fite: Highlights: Presentation given to FLT 33 on MS activities and opportunities. VDCDR 03 has asked for a similar, expanded presentation at the Division level

sometime this winter. Ongoing AUX-MS shutdown due to COVID-19 pandemic MS interest survey is ongoing, to be completed by 31 December 2020

- SO-MT: Doug Macpherson: Proctoring of tests is now being allowed. Also, students may self-proctor a number of the AUXOP classes now. Call Doug MacPherson for details–Doug proctored one AUXNAV part B test during the month.

The Boating Season Kick-off event for the Division was shared with the new Chief at Station Rio Vista, and his is excited to host it next year, pandemic permitting.

DETAILS:

The Boating Season Kick-off meeting at Station Rio Vista (see Goal 1) scheduled for April 4th has been postponed indefinitely. We hope to hold it the spring of 2021.

Division members are urged to take advantage of the mandating training that is available at AUXLMS if they are coming due.

- SO-OP John Hardin: Power Distance?

If you haven't heard of the term "Power Distance", join the "club". I recently encountered it while reading a report of the P/V NIPPON MARU striking a U.S. Navy fuel dock in Apra Harbor, Guam. Power Distance, as explained in this report, exists when there is a large gap in the level of authority or experience between crewmembers.

The effects of Power Distance are twofold. First, ignoring, downplaying or ridiculing the input of a junior crewmember deprives the senior crewmember of critical information the junior crew may have. Second, Power Distance can discourage or intimidate junior crew from even attempting to provide essential information necessary for the safe completion of the mission. Say "goodbye" to RM2 and to an enjoyable patrol.

In the case of the NIPPON MARU mishap, the master insisted on placing the thruster in reverse over numerous objections and physical interventions of the very much junior third officer. Making matters worse, the master may have been under the influence of alcohol. As a result, the 550' vessel backed into the Navy fuel dock causing over a million dollars in damages and punching a hole in the stern of the NIPPON MARU. Fortunately, there were no injuries. Read more about this mishap at (<https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/alcohol-and-power-distance-led-to-nippon-maru-allision>)

On recreational vessels, a related form of Power Distance exists when a dominant spouse simply ignores critical input from the other spouse. Spousal Power Distance mishaps I have witnessed include attempting to get underway with mooring lines or power cords attached and delayed responses to re-peated spousal warnings of flooding and fires.

No one knows everything, but everybody knows something

- SO-PA Richard Celia: In the realm of Public Affairs, a complete electronic database of all marinas, marine dealers, yacht clubs and docks from Lake Tahoe to Rio Vista is being developed. With it, we can electronically spread the AUX message as well as lay the groundwork for visitations once the Covid protocols change. We need new Members, and people who boat and love the water are our best prospects and we will recruit them.
- SO-PB Richard Celia: **Newsletter posted**
- SO-PE Don Anderson: **Covid-19 stand-down**
Boat America distance learning class scheduled for November.
Weekend Navigator distance learning class scheduled for January 2021.

Details:

Due to the Covid-19 stand-down of all face-to-face Auxiliary activities, all in-person Public Education classes have been canceled until further notice.

The full "Boat America" course will be held in November 2020 and run for 5 sessions over a two week period. Fifteen (15) students are scheduled to attend the virtual training class coordinated by Flotilla 3-5 FSO-PE Richard Celia. However, instructors are from three different flotillas.

Initial planning is well underway for a Weekend Navigator distance learning class to be held in January 2021. Instructors have been chosen, slides and student study guides and exercises are being reviewed and adjusted as necessary. The intent will be to tailor the course to local waterways and charts.

- SO-PV VACANT Don Anderson reporting: Flotilla 3-5: David Wright made 4 Dealer Visits in October 2020.
- SO-SR Celeste Bates: No Minutes submitted
- SO-VE James Stewart: Webinar for VE and PV, James Goff for his continued support for Boating Safety, In Summary, not much has changed improper fitting of life jackets, Life Jackets will mirror the Canadian system using picture showing use and buoyancy for different types
- SO-HR: Don Anderson reporting:
Flotilla 3-1: No activity to report
Flotilla 3-3: 2 members dis-enrolled, 2 new member application accepted and member # given.
Flotilla 3-5: Flotilla membership: 42 (as of Oct 31, 2020)
Accessions: 0
Losses 1 (members dropped from the Flotilla)
Contacts/leads being pursued: 1
Contacts/leads with action: 1
Contacts/leads dropped: 1
Leads from the HR Robot: 0
We have 1 member in AP status.
Celeste Renee Bates 3009932
Two participants were dropped this month. The first from the active members list, William Franco III. Dropped at his request. The other at his request dropped from the prospective applicant list. I have not yet received the application from Aaron Van Dyck for review and forwarding to DIRAUX.
Flotilla 3-10:
One outstanding member has not renewed his dues. Additional contacts have been made. Processing Disenrollment docs.
- SO-DV: Kevin Powers: No activity to report.
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Projects

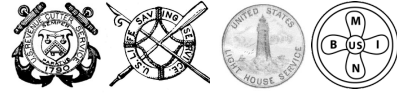
- FCs and VFCs Making contacts within

Future Activities

- Unknown until holds are lifted

Challenges

- Some Flotillas struggling to complete FSO and officer positions
- Securing enough facilities for training and patrols



- Recruitment and retention through the shut down
- To find a way to continue our momentum through the virus quarenteens

Goals and Objectives

- Trying to hold onto as many members as possible.
- Increase the number of surface facilities by 2
- Trying to refill vacant positions

3 ups-3 downs

- Up: Flotilla 3-1 is progressing
- Up: Many training opportunities happening in virtual world
- Up: Working with new FC/VFC of 3-1
- Down: Loosing valuable personal due to COVID related challenges. Members not getting sick but are tiring of the restrictions. Good members and their contributions lost.
- Down: Need more facilities
- Down: need a quarantine end.....

<End of report>
Respectfully Submitted,

Russ Kaiser

—Russ Kaiser, DCDR 03
Division 113-03 (Greater Sacramento and the California Delta)