



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



To: Dean McFarren, Commodore

13 May 2021

Cc: District Board and Staff

From : Lewis C Derfuss, Division Commander

Division: 5

HIGHLIGHTS/"3 UPS":

1. Working with flotilla staff to prepare NACO 3 Star Award Packages
2. Division 5 captures many awards in 2019/2020
3. Applying Phase 3 Guideline to resume performing many traditional program activities.

DETAILS:

1. Our SO-DV, Randy McCormick, is continuing to reach out to flotilla and staff to aid in developing NACO 3 Star Award application packages. We have now submitted applications from 2 of 5 Flotillas 52 and 53. Our goal is to get at least 4 of 5 Flotillas to submit this year.
2. We want to recognize the following Division 5 Flotillas and members for awards announced at recent Virtual Awards Ceremony:

--AUXOP recipients: Jim Minkel FL51, Erik Paananen FL52, Kit Galvin FL53, Rebecca Molinari FL55

--NACO 3-Star Diversity Award

---2019 FL52, FL53, FL55

---2020 FL52

--Flotilla with most outstanding performance in Member Training - FL53

--CG Administrative Support 3rd Place - Wil Sumner FL55 (179 hours)

--Aids to Navigation - Outstanding achievement in ATON/Chart Updating programs

---1st - Wil Sumner FL55 (665 points), 2nd - Robert Bain FL57 (595 points)

--Public Education - Total PE/MT Hours 1st - Lew Derfuss FL53 (144 hours)

--Program Visitations - Total number of PVs 1st - Gary Murray FL55 (450 points)

--RBS Program Visitations Trophy - total Flotilla PVs - FL55

--Vessel Examinations - Total Flotilla VSCs - FL53

--CG operations support - Auxiliarist with most operations support hours 3rd - Ray Van Cleave (725 points)

--District Commodore's Trophy - Outstanding Auxiliarist in all major programs- Kit Galvin FL53

--NACO's Aux Diversity Award- Randy McCormick FL53

--D11N Personal Commendations:

--Auxiliary Commandant's Letter of Commendation (ACLOC) -- Michael Ungersma FL51, AUC Sta Vallejo

--Auxiliary Achievement Medal (AAM)-- Robert Schabert, DSO-HR 2019-2020,
---Steven Johnson, DCDR 5, 2019
--Curtis Han, Commodore's Aide in awards 2017-2020

--Auxiliary Commendation Medal (ACM)- Randy McCormick, DCAPT, 2020

Additionally, we awarded the following Division 5 level awards for 2020:

Top Gun	Kit Galvin 53
Top Trainee	Eric Paananen 52
Top Publication	Wade McAdams 53
Top Information Technology	Thomas Herbst 55
COMO Margret Mayland Trophy (Most Improved Flotilla)	Flotilla 53 Mark Waters FC

Special Awards— Not Presented yet

55, Aux Survivor (Fire Displacement) -- Curtis Han 52, Mark Waters 53, John Guaraglia
Gary Murry 55

A Big BRAVO ZULU to ALL OUR AWARD WINNERS!!!

3. We are transitioning to live in-person activities where permitted by Phase 3 Guidelines. This includes Patrols, Boat Crew Training, VE's, PV's, PA events. Our NSBW Activities will transition mostly to live events where permitted. It looks like Division 5 and its Flotilla's will look to start Hybrid meetings which will include in-person and online components in August as we all usually go dark in July. We are planning one more Virtual PE ABS Class with FC 53 Kit Galvin is organizing the Class 24-28 May--We need student support This will be last ABS class. Also, BRAVO ZULU to Wil Sumner who continues to put on a virtual Marine Safety qualification classes—See Webinar calendar for details. We encourage all members to take advantage of Webinars and live activities. Our patrol season is underway with FL 55 and FI 53 having multiple approved patrols and completing some PATONS and Bridge Verifications. Now that the Patrol Crew Bubble has burst we have more flexibility with who we can include as crew and trainees, So if you are due Requal or are working on initial Quals or just seeking to get your 12- hour minimum underway time in Contact Wil Sumner FL 55 or Lew Derfuss SO-OP 5 and make your needs known. We all are rusty after over a year of no patrol activities and we need to train to get prepared for QE Check rides. We are tentatively looking to schedule Annual Division 5 Luau on Saturday 10 July at Derfuss Ranch in Vacaville CA pending continuing lifting of Corina Virus Restrictions and DIRAUX Approval.

PROJECTS:

1. We have scheduled on District calendar--2021 COW for Division 5 for 5 Dec and a Fall OPTREX hosted by FL 55 at Sta Bodega Bay 24-26 Sep. With progress of moving to Phase 3 we are hopeful these events will happen.
2. Members working on updating PPE inspections and completing 2021 Operations workshop and TCT/Risk Management Refreshers
3. NSBW being lead by Bob Schabert, VDCDR 5 Ingemar Ollson, and representatives from each Flotilla. Bob is also planning to approach local government officials to have proclamations prepared. All plans have shifted back to Plan A which will allow limited in person contact. See Phase 3 Guidelines.
4. It was decided to cancel our annual Golf Fundraiser this year and look into another way to hopefully raise money to support our local CG Stations Morale Funds.

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES/OPPORTUNITIES:

1. VE restrictions to 3 a day per inspector—Posses a real hinderance to all VE planned activities. We would hope that National rescind this limit of 3

2. Time and funding constraints
3. Phase has again given us more flexibility to preform some traditional missions and opportunities to meet in person and socialize.
4. Cancelled PCA Fairs, DTRAIN,-- Emphasis now on NSBW, OPTREX's, Fall PCA Fair and COWS
5. Training and scheduling 29 required 2021 requalification check rides as well as initial qualification of Coxswains and Boat Crew members.
6. Focus on individual Flotilla strengths and combined and open up and communicate training opportunities among Flotilla's, combining efforts to achieve maximum results.

AGENCY INTERACTION:

1. Looking forward to again working closely with Sta Vallejo, Sta Rio Vista and Sta 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 as allowed. One requirement to interact with Active Duty Station personnel is that ALL Auxiliary Crew Members that interact BE VACINATED against Covid Virus.

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: Photos provided from Wil Sumner FL 55 FSO-OP



Two Boat Training



Margarita in Tow

Wil Sumner and Crew Member