



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



To: Dean McFarren, Commodore

10 June 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 Fully engages National Safe Boating Week with broad spectrum of activities
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 3 of 5 Flotillas 51, 52 and 53. Our goal is to get at least 4 of 5 Flotillas to submit this year.
2. All 5 Flotillas were engaged with NSBW activities. A comprehensive report outlining these activities was submitted to DSO=PA Jane Smith. To highlight some of what was contained in this report it included several PA/VE booths at several different boat ramps, several patrols that included SAR cases to rescue disabled vessels and tow them back to launch ramps, proclamations and newspaper press release articles, as well as a blood drive. Bravo Zulu to all for your participation!!
3. We are transitioning to live in-person activities as permitted by Phase 3 Guidelines. This includes Patrols, Boat Crew Training, VE's, PV's, PA events. Our NSBW Activities transitioned mostly to live events along with some virtual events as well. Division 5 and its Flotilla's will start Hybrid meetings which will include in-person and online components in August as we all usually go dark in July. We completed one more Virtual PE ABS Class with FC 53 Kit Galvin is organizing the Class 24-28 May-- This was our last ABS class. FC 53 Kit Galvin has scheduled our first in-person Boating America Class for 26 June at a location TBD 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. FL 55 and FI 53 continue to have multiple approved patrols and completing many PATONS and Bridge Verifications. With the Patrol Crew Bubble gone we have more flexibility and are reaching out to include as crew and trainees from other flotillas as well as our flotillas, Those who are due Requal or are working on initial Qualls or just seeking to get your 12- hour minimum underway time please 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. Division 5 and Flotilla 53 are hosting our Annual Division 5 Luau on Saturday 10 July at Derfuss Ranch in Vacaville CA pending DIRAUX Approval. We hope to get a good turnout and use this as a celebration of the lifting of many of the Covid Restrictions and once again enjoy our cornerstone of Fellowship. We will be purchasing a whole Hawaiian style roasted pig as the center e of the meal along with potluck sides and soft drinks we ask participant to bring. It will also feature Hawaiian music and Hula dancers. This is an event you don't want to miss!!

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. We have started working on a plan to have a joint BBQ tentatively on Aug 6 with Stat Vallejo and Division 5 membership
4. We are working on preparing members to take on positions of leadership as both elected and appointed staff officers as the election season for 2022 is rapidly approaching.

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 3 has again given us more flexibility to preform some traditional missions and opportunities to meet in person and socialize. Emphasis on importance of considering Covid vaccinations to further remove restrictions on missions we perform.
4. Emphasis now on OPTREX's, Fall PCA Fair and COWS
5. Training and scheduling 29 required 2021 regualification 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: NSBW Photos



Top Left: Dinia Paananen, Registered Nurse, wearing a “Lifejacket to Work”. Member of Flotilla 05-02.

Top Right: Erik & Dinia Paananen, pictured leaving Vitalant, in Napa, following donating blood for NSBW 2021. Members of Flotilla 05-02



Left Tom Hurley, Coxswain/Owner of OPFAC *Audrey L*, while on Paton Patrol. Tom is member of Flotilla 05-02. Bob Bain, Flotilla 05-07; Michael Hay, Flotilla 05-07; and Earl Berg, Flotilla 05-07, were crew members. 23 Paton inspections were completed.

Right Lew Derfuss, Coxswain of SARDOG, FL 05-03 Prepare AUXFAC for patrol during static display

Gilbert Ellis, Randy McCormick, Kit Galvin: FL 05-03

This is why we are here



Kit Galvin learning from the Fire Dept.



Another VE decal awarded! Owner with Morgan Curtis, FL 05-03



Photography by: Bob Schabert and Bob Galvin, FL 05-03



Crew of Margarita hard at work during towing evolutions with Minnow on an unusually calm afternoon on Bodega Bay.



Guests at memorial Coast Guard Cemetery. In Uniform, Flotilla 55 Member John Teague and Wife Karen and Maria Matthies wife of member Jim Matthies at far right.



Travis, Store Manager of Sebastopol Hardware happy to display his new supply of Recreational Boating and Marine Safety Publications.



Margarita towing buoy back to Army Corps of Engineers Dock and docked at Lake Sonoma Marina



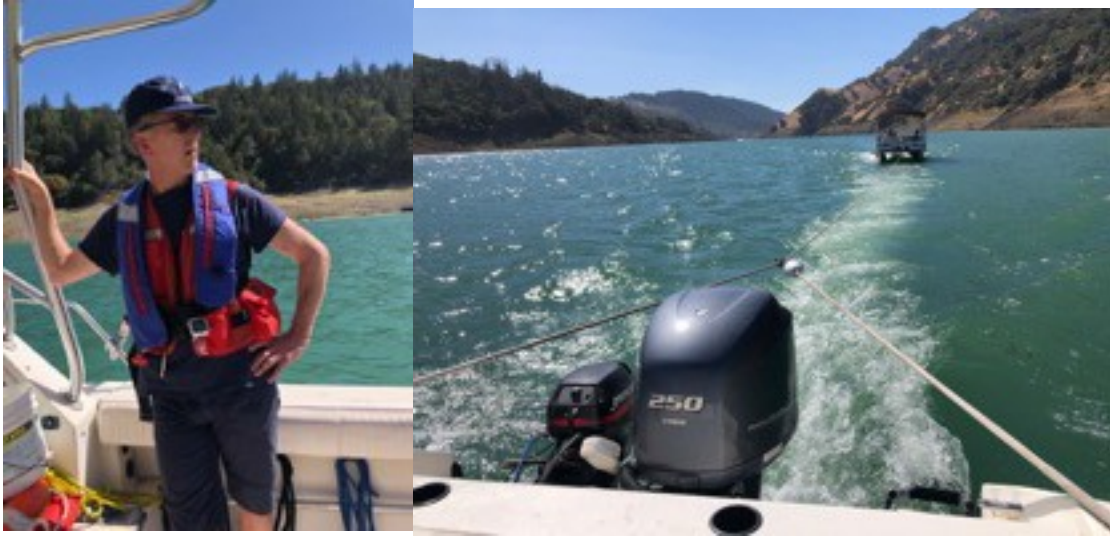
Francesca Smith PYC member shows off her CA boater card at the Petaluma Turning Basin and Yacht Club.



Flotilla 55 member Thomas Nguyen stands by at PA/VE station at the Lake Sonoma VC Thomas also works FT as a security guard at TRACEN Petaluma.



Wil Sumner, Thomas Herbst and John Zowalki aboard Aux Vessel Margarita



Thomas Herbst Standing Tow watch as Margarita tows patio boat back to Lake Sonoma Marina.



Flotilla 55 Members and wives. Raychell and Wil Sumner, John and Karen Teague, Carla and Doug Twitchell and Maria and Jim Matthies At CG Memorial Day Remembrance



BM3 Aaron Flannery, FSO Doug Twitchell, EPO-MK1 Shane Craig and BM2 John Schaefer



Auxiliarist Wil Sumner and OIC-BMC of Station Bodega Bay Ben Corbisiero



BM3 Aaron Flannery, Historian Ralph Shanks and BM2 John Schaefer



BM2 John Schaefer, OIC-BMC Ben Corbisiero, Auxiliaries Wil Sumner, John Teague and Doug Twitchell, BM3 Aaron Flannery



May 22 to 28, 2021 - For National Boating Safety Week we had the Flotillas 57 Coast Guard Auxiliary posted by the launch ramp for boating safety survey May 22 10am to 3 pm.

We hope you stopped by to get your boat checked out by Captain Ingemar Olsson.