



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



Date: October 18, 2021
To: Dean McFarren, Commodore
From: Chuck Cobery, Division Commander
CC: DCOS, DCAPT, VCDR, IPDCDR, SO-SR, 113-06 Members
Division: 113-06 Gold Coast Area September 2021 Report

HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Division OPTREX
2. Flotilla News

DETAILS:

1. Division 6 successfully hosted an OPTREX in the Santa Cruz area on 10 and 11 September. Two boats from Flotilla 6-10, *C.R.A.F.T Moment* (**Wally Smith**), and *Mei Long* (**Chuck Cobery**) participated on Friday the 10th, and two more from Flotilla 6-4, **Steve McCann's Sundiver** and **Mark McLaughlin's Pelican**, joined in on the following day. All thirteen boat crew and coxswain candidates who were either requalifying or qualifying for the first time passed with flying colors. A lunch on Sunday hosted by Flotilla 6-10 at the Crow's Nest capped off the operation. A very special thanks for the participation of the four facilities as well as for our very knowledgeable QE's, **Curtis Han** and **Dustin Finkelson**, for their participation and expertise. Everyone learned something! Many thanks, and a serious Bravo Zulu goes to Flotilla 6-10 Auxiliarist **Steve Daley**, who kept us all safe by manning the radio tower atop the Crow's Nest Restaurant and provided radio guard duties for Saturday's portion of the OPTREX. The number of successful candidates was the largest this year within the District. Well done to all and *congratulations* to all qualifiers for the success your hard work earned!
2. Flotilla 6-10's **Bruce Simpson** reports that all 69 assigned ATONS have been successfully surveyed... Flotilla 6-4 members **Ray David** and **Tom Stead** have made ambitious plans to conduct commercial fishing exams at Monterey, Moss Landing, and Santa Cruz. Keep up the momentum, gents!...6-10 auxiliaries **Wally Smith** and **Chuck Cobery** will host a raft up bar-b-que with two boats in the Monterey Bay off Santa Cruz Main Beach in October to thank all the boat crews from the District that have supported 6-10's local surface ops this past year. Flotilla 6-4's **Craig Johnson** spent some of his off hours during Coastal Cleanup Day on 18 September tidying up San Carlos Beach adjacent to Coast Guard Station Monterey's pier. Thanks, Craig, for your selfless service.

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES/OPPORTUNITIES:

Our next big event will be our Change of Watch Luncheon, to be held on Saturday, November 20 at the Bayonet and Black Horse in Seaside, CA. This will be a great opportunity for the Division to spend some quality time together.

AGENCY INTERACTION:

None

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Goals for 2021 for Division 6 are as follows:

- Division 6 Auxiliary support for Station Monterey Communications missions (ongoing)
- Begin Public Education courses leading to Cal Boating certification cards (planning for next year).
- Make efforts to increase diversity through community outreach in underserved areas (ongoing).
- Increase focus on Vessel Exams and Program Visits.
- Offer Boat Crew Academy to increase number of qualified crew members.
- Plan and execute a successful Change of Watch.
- Initiate planning and follow-up completion for a successful 2021 OPTREX in September (successfully completed).
- Increase member involvement in Auxiliary functions by improving the overall member experience.
- Develop an organized, methodical mentoring program.

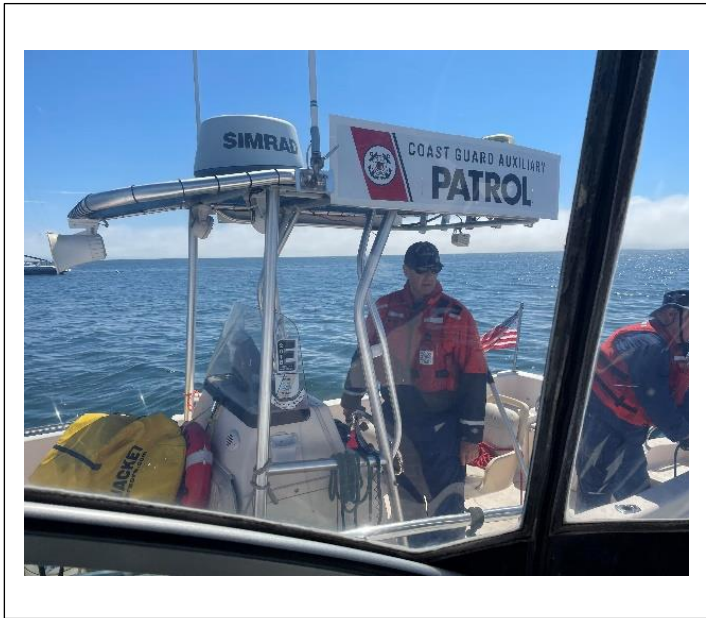
Very Respectfully Submitted,

Chuck Cobery
DCDR, Division 6
US Coast Guard Auxiliary



You couldn't pay me to have this much fun!

Division 6 OPTREX and surface operations



(Left, above): **Steve McCann** and crewman **Rob Kay**, both from Flotilla 6-4, maneuver *Sundiver* for a side tow during the Division 6 OPTREX on 11 September. (Right, above): **David Frisbey**, Flotilla 6-10, awaits instructions from coxswain **Wally Smith** (6-10) during the OPTREX.



(Above): **Jerry Edelen**, Flotilla 6-4, keeps an eagle eye on the starboard watch during a Mid-September patrol aboard *Mei Long* near Santa Cruz.