



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



To: Dean McFarren, Commodore

10 Nov. 2021

Cc: District Board and Staff

From : Lewis C Derfuss, Division Commander

Division: 5

HIGHLIGHTS/"3 UPS":

1. Working with Flotilla staff to complete elections
2. Division 5 and our Flotillas again start transition to live/hybrid meetings.
3. All Programs resuming within stated guidelines with emphasis of completing Coxswain and Boat Crew qualifications and annual 12-hour minimums.

DETAILS:

1. Two Flotilla elections complete FL 51 with Steve Johnson FC and Greg Gulevich VFC, FL 55 Frank Capurro FC and James Matthies VFC. Upcoming elections FI 52 had one candidate and elected VFC Eric Paananen and now have FC candidate—Dan Glenn—Election 20 Nov, FL 53 elected Kit Galvin as FC and Morgan Curtis as VFC—pending a waiver approval and FL 57 Bob Bain stepped up as candidates for FC and Sean Kuipers will step up as VFC--- actively working on this issue and will schedule a special election. Both Division and Flotilla elected leadership looking to finding staff members as well. Guidelines for conducting electronic elections have been communicated and discussed. All elections will again be electronic as directed by DIRAUX and senior leadership with candidates submitting intent to run letters 14 days prior to elections.
2. After receiving updated guidelines Division and Flotillas looking to again try live/hybrid meetings starting in November. Flotilla 55 hosted a non-official potluck house party to wish Wil and Rachel Sumner a farewell on their move to Oregon. It was a nice gathering with plenty of food and sharing of memories about interactions with Will over the years. See pictures below.
3. We hope our program activities don't move backwards because of new Covid spikes. These activities include Patrols, Boat Crew Training, VE's, PV's, PA, and PE events. We encourage all members to take advantage of Webinars and live activities. FL 55 and FI 53 continue to have multiple approved patrols including crew and trainees from other flotillas as well as our flotillas. We rolled right into supporting Fleet Week with six Patrols on the Box. SAR DOG all four days with Derfuss as Coxswain and crews and trainees Tom Hurley, Ron Nathan, Curtis Wheeler, Dina Paananen, Eric Paananen, Michael Gonzaga and KOKUA II on Sat and Sun with Coxswain McCormick and Crews and Trainees Stephen Kilgraiff, James Matthies, Curtis Morgan, John Albrecht. Another area we can address through PE classes on-line, PV's and VE's, which I refer to as Preventable SARs. I encourage those who are qualified and feel safe to do so to hit the boat ramps in the Delta and perform VE's—They save lives! by ensuring boats have proper safety equipment to deal with emergencies that may arrive as well as preventing them from happening in the first place.

FL 53 was invited to support a special mission critical tasking one of three AUXFACs on 24 Oct in Division 3 in support of the Ironman Competition on the American and Sacramento rivers. We choose KOKUA II to support this tasking due to swim platform that would have eased with rescue of distressed swimmers with Coxswain Randy McCormick, Crew Lew Derfuss, and Trainee Michael Gonzaga who is a MD. We showed up a Broadrick launch ramp at 0420 but found the ramp gate locked delaying our launch and departure until 0500. We attended a briefing minutes later and

were just about to our assigned position at the North end on Sacramento River just upstream from the entrance of the American River when at 0630 we received radio message that the event was cancelled out of safety concerns due to severe winds and rain—That was the day Sacramento broke a 24 rain total record of 5.44 inch the most since before 1880. While we were disappointed the event was cancelled, we believe it was a good call to cancel as we were soaked to the bone—when I got home and took off my shoes, I had 1 inch of standing water in them. We look forward to supporting the event on 23 Oct 2022.

PROJECTS:

1. We are a go for scheduled 2021 COW for Division 5 for 5 Dec with a limit of 50 in attendance. Have been in communications with new TRACEN Leadership and working on details to plan another great event.
2. 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. Time and funding constraints—We are again in an operation Stand Down due to funding and new software issues---So next possible patrols unless CG Critical needs arise will not be until December, if at all.
2. Focus on individual Flotilla strengths and combined and open up and communicate training opportunities among Flotilla's, using combined Flotilla efforts working together to achieve maximum results.

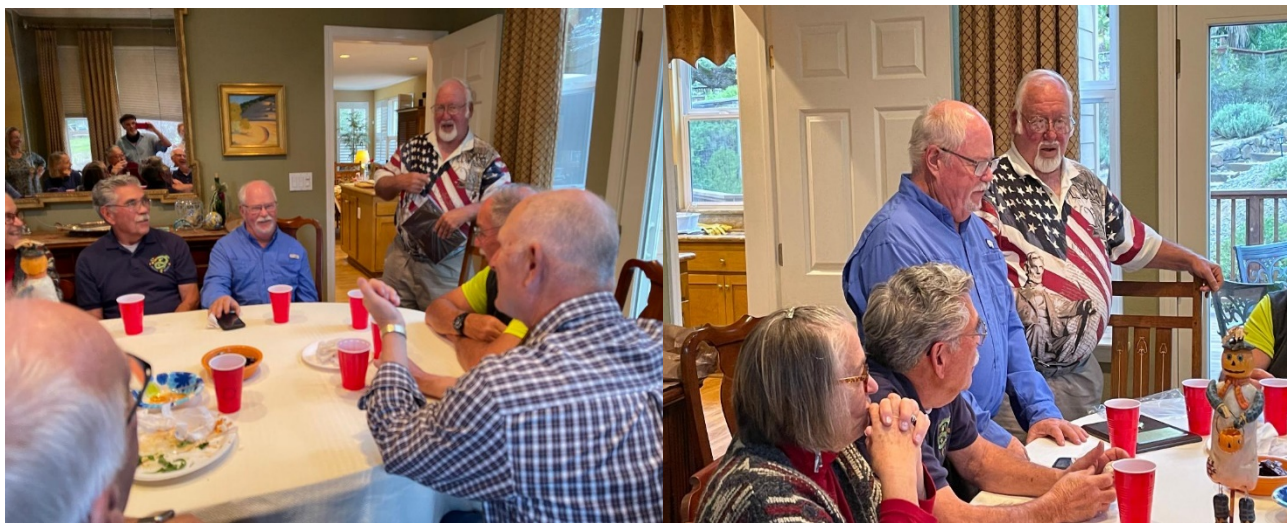
AGENCY INTERACTION:

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.

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 the Premier Division. Strive to win NACO 5 Star award across the Division—achieved 4 of 5 Flotilla submitted and approved

PHOTOS: Wil and Rachel Sumner going away potluck



Bob Smith, Wil Sumner, Lew Derfuss, Frank Capurro

Mary Smith, Bob Smith, Wil Sumner, Lew Derfuss



Multiple Guest

John Teague, Therese Vanwiele, Frank Cappurro, Rachael Sumner



Jim and Maria Matthies, John and Karen Teague, Kathy Culver

Doug Twitchell, Larry Kubo, Bob Galvin



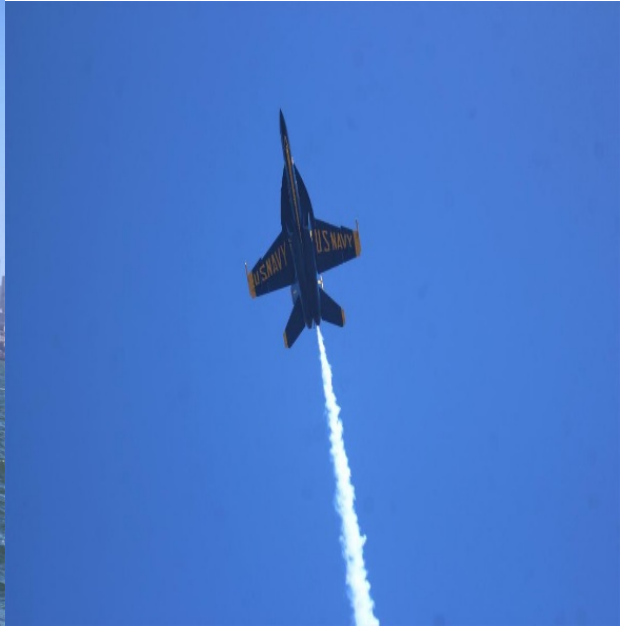
Wil Sumner receives plaque in appreciation for his service and contribution to D11N and Division 5 from DCDR 5 Lew Derfuss

Fleet Week Photos

KOKUA II on SF Bay



Blue Angles Perform



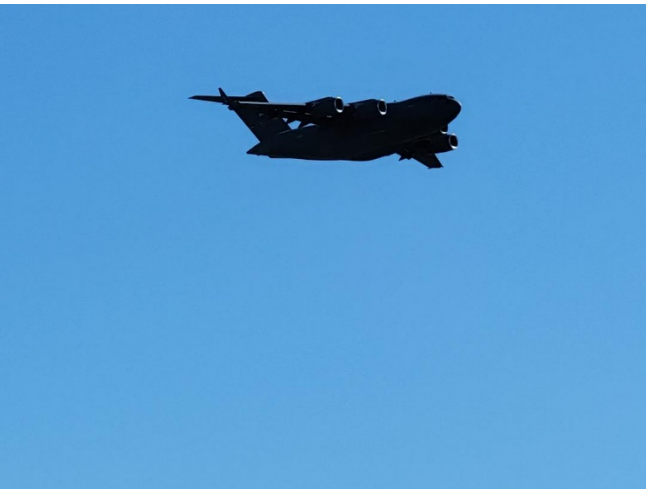
President Roosevelt Ship USS Potomac



Blue Angels with Bay Bridge in background



United Airlines 787 Flyover



Travis AFB C-17 Flyover



2021 Fleet Week Parade of Ships coming under Golden Gate Bridge