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**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
District 11 Northern Region**

Serving Northern California, Nevada, Utah



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
DIVISION 10 COMMANDER'S REPORT
To District 11 North

TO: DCO Curtis Han, D11NR
Cc: District Board and Staff
DATE: November, 2023 **ACTIVITIES REPORT**
DIVISION: 10 - San Joaquin Valley
DCDR: Thomas Witt

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Flotilla 10-02 Modesto, Chris Bennett
- Flotilla 10-03 Stockton, Monica Eaton
- Flotilla 10-05 Fresno, Donald Pierce
- Flotilla 10-06 Kaweah, Rod Rollins

DETAILS:

- **Flotilla 10-02**
- **Flotilla 10-03**
- **Flotilla 10-05**
- **Flotilla 10-06**

SO Reports;

- DO-CA (*Culinary Assistant*) vacant
- SO-CM (*Communications*) Mike Rafatti
Reported his meeting with District Coms officer.
- DO-CS (*Communication Services*) Mike Brady
No new changes.
- SO-DV (*Diversity*) James Stephens
Nothing to report.
- SO-FN (*Finance*) Ken McSheehy
Report on file.
- SO-HR (*Human Resources*) Tom Witt
I am happy to report that the flotillas are increasing their numbers and the Division is on the rebound.
- SO-IS (*Information Services*) Ken McSheehy
Report on file.

- SO-MA (*Materials*) Linda Bradon (not present)
- SO-MS (*Marine Safety & Environmental Protection*) Joseph Chavoen (not present)
- SO-MT (*Member Training*) Mike Rafatti
Making ready to start 2024 training after the new year gets here. Setting goals to increase trained instructors for training members.
- SO-NS (*Navigation Services*) vacant
- SO-OP (*Operations*) Donald Pierce

MODESTO, FRESNO AND VISALIA:

CONDUCTING MOM AND ATON VERIFICATION PATROL WITH MEMBERS FROM 3 FLOTILLAS.
ORDERS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR 4 NOV.

CREW/COX'N: TRAINEES ARE BEING INCLUDED WITH ALL OPERATION ACTIVITES. NEW STANDARD REQUIREMENTS BEING USED TO READY EVERONE FOR QUALITY AND CERTIFICATIONS.

PPE's: need to be inspected and will not be able to be used during an OPTREX if not inspected and in AUXDATA.

- SO-PA (*Public Affairs*) Rebecca Obrien-Witt
Flotilla 10-02 was invited to be guest speakers at the California Striped Bass Association meeting on October 3, 2023. Marine Safety Officer Carrie Van De Boom and Public Affairs Officer Rebecca O'Brien-Witt spoke to the group on several topics of water safety, including a presentation and discussion on some of the newer types of personal flotation devices, the pertinent new laws and regulations going into effect January 1, 2024, impacts of invasive species in the waterways, and distribution of Dockwalker kits provided to the Auxiliary by the State of California to boatowners after a short discussion on the topics on the questionnaires.
The Stanislaus River Salmon Festival in Knights Ferry is taking place on November 11, 2023, with several members of Flotilla 10-02 planning to participate in our PA booth activities that day. The focus of the festival is on environmental issues, conservation of resources, water supply management, invasive species, safe outdoor and water recreation, and wildlife issues, to name just a few. The weather is anticipated to be very pleasant, which should help attendance.
- SO-PB (*Publications*) Chris Bennett
Nothing to report.
- SO-PE (*Public Educations*) Tom Witt
Nothing to report.
- SO-PV (*Program Visitors*) vacant
- SO-SR (*Secretary of Records*) Terri Simmons (excused).
- SO-VE (*Vessel Examiners*) Steve Bradon (excused)

Flotilla FC Reports

- **10-02 Modesto – Chris Bennett**
FC elect for the upcoming year is James Stevens, and the VFC elect will be Mike Bradey.
- **10-03 Stockton – Monica Eaton**
FC elect is Monica Eaton and the VFC elect is Joseph Chavoen for the upcoming year 2024.
- **10-05 Fresno – Donald Pierce**
Elect FC is James Torrance, and the elect VFC will be Donald Pierce for the upcoming year 2024.

2 new members. Have 5 others wanting to join, but haven't contacted back.

Working on members to become ATON verifiers.

- **10-06 Kaweah - Rod Rollins**

Elections were on the 13th of November with Rod Rollins as the FC, and Howard Ratzlaff as the VFC. Flotilla 10-05 and 10-06 are having their COW at the Yosemite Falls Cafe, 5123 N

Blackstone Ave, Fresno. On the 2nd of December at 10:00.

Elections, elected officers for 2024;

Flotilla 10-02 FC-James Stevens, VFC-Mike Bradey

Flotilla 10-03 FC-Monica Eaton, VFC-Joseph Chavoen

Flotilla 10-05 FC-James Torrance, VFC- Doc Pierce

Flotilla 10-06 FC- Rod Rollind, VFC-Howard Ratzlaff

Division 10 DCDR-Mike Rafatti, VDCDR-Chris Bennett

DCDR Comments:

One more meeting for this year, the COW, and then the new leadership for 2024 takes the helm. Some will be doing it for a continued term. For those that are going to be hitting the road for the first time, members who have had the positions, will need to step up. This isn't just the elected officers who need help, there are some staff officers are getting their feet wet too.

January 20th is when the PCA fair is scheduled for training. This is one PCA fair that is a must for new positions in the Auxiliary. Plan for it and do it.

The COWs are approaching fast. Don't let it get here and not have the plans in place. Getting it ready takes more time than imagined.

The good of the order will be done on the COW docket next month. Please stay tuned, and plan to attend.

Next year, we are going to be doing uniform inspections for the membership at the meetings. Some reading up in the AUX Manuel might be in store for all to get it done properly. Chapter 10 is the one needed to be read.