



U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

District Eleven North Region DISTRICT STAFF OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

March 10, 2021

To: Dean McFarren

Cc: Curtis Han

Cc: District Board and Staff, ADSO-SO CM

From: Larry Stanton DSO-CM

Goals: 1. Provide excellent contingency communications in support of Coast Guard District 11, Sectors and Stations through continuous training and education.

HIGHLIGHTS/"3 UPS":

1. Two courses will be held at D-Train as well as opportunity to complete TCO-PQS.
2. On the air training began for Spring D-11 Exercise. Teams have been identified.
3. During awards presentation for SIDEKICK crew at Station Rio Vista, I met with CRD Rojas (Sector Command Center). He expressed his gratitude for our team and requested a list of members in order to recognize them.
4. Participation in AWO on Mondays.
5. Participation in Monday VHF net and Tuesday HF net.
6. Submitted photos to LCDR. Jojola for her briefing to the Admiral regarding last year's HF exercise.

Highlights/ DOWN:

1. Mt Diablo repeater is still down. Repeater inspected and found to be in need of significant repairs. We are actively working on finding a serviceable replacement. Sector has indicated that they may be able to assist with this expensive project. Kevin Sellstrom is working on a quote.
2. I have received very few reports this month.

Outside Agency Contact: I have been contacted by California State Guard rep James Lamb regarding joint communications exercises. More to follow.

ADSO Reports:

1. D-DSO-CM- Paz, See Div 1 report.
2. ADSO-ARMS-Firehock: Supporting testing of Ventrilo system, no ARMS report. We will be meeting in the future to discuss "call out" standards and practices for AUX ARMS.
3. ADSO-ACV Busch-No report.

4. ADSO-Simmons- Working on Armed Forces Day Radio program.
5. ADSO-CC Scholz- Continuing work on spring exercise.
6. ADSO-CM UTAH- WILLIAMS- Participating in HF net. Working on D-11 CM hat and shirt project. Working with Morris Farmer on CM trailer.
7. ADSO-MT Maddox- Planning on presenting TCO-Ops workshop at Dtrain.
8. ADSO-CM-AA Farmer- No report.
9. ADSO-CM CC/RDF Thorsson- Assisted with Testing HF radio testing.
10. ADSO-CM-TK Sellstrom- Working on Diablo repeater.

SO Reports/FSO Reports:

Division 1-SO-PAZ_–

FSO Reports:

Flotilla 12: No report received.

Flotilla 14: Report on file.

Central Marin Mobil3 and Novato Mobile 1 participated in Monday Radio Nets

Kevin Luke and I continue to each stand AWO watches.

Goals for 2022.

1. Assist members interested in complete
2. Assist and TCO's interested in becoming Mobiles with supplies And Radio needed to pass inspection as a facility.
3. Maintain status as an on-call AWO with Sector San Francisco.
4. Continue facilitating the Monday night Radio nets along with Kevin Luke.

Flotilla 17: No report received.

Flotilla 19: Report received.

1. Continue to check in on the Monday radio Net at 2000.
2. No call outs.
3. Attended two sessions of Comm Academy 2021.

Goal: Add one more radio communicator to the Flotilla.

Division 3 SO-STANTON

3-1 FSO Foster-No report filed.

3-3- No FSO-CM

3-5- FSO-Harrison-

District 11NR Auxiliary Unit Coordinator for Coast Guard Station Rio Vista

Report for February 2022

Highlights

* **CG Sector San Francisco** recognized AUX vessel **SIDEKICK** and **John Hardin's** outstanding contributions to California boating safety along with the crew of **Don Anderson** and **Greg VanKoersel**. **LTCMDR Ruelas, OIC of Sector Command Center**, presented the award of **CG Meritorious Team Commendation** with "O" device for Operations to them at the Station on the 23rd in front of the entire CG crew. Well deserved and long overdue. Congrats guys. In attendance were AUX **Larry Stanton, Jeff Fite, Doug MacPherson, Johan Lai, Kit & Bob Galvin** and **Lisa Curtis**.

* **Flotilla 5-3** visited the Station on the 5th for a **Station Appreciation Day** arranged by **Lisa Curtis**. Also attending were **Kit Galvin, Randy McCormick, Rhoda Jones, and Steven Johnson**. They received a tour of the Comms Center, birthing areas, gym, shop, and the boats. I provided a briefing on the Station's history, area of responsibility (AOR) and SAR & Boarding activities. They presented the Station crew with an elegant framed certificate which will be placed in a prominent spot. The Flotilla graciously provided lunch (pizza, salad and desert) for the crew. Good time. Thanks 5-3.

* **CG now issuing orders** for Auxiliary patrols. About time. **Tommy Holtzman** led off things off with a Land Mobile Patrol in **Sacramento Mobile Eight** on the 2nd. No one more happy than **John Hardin**. In fact, **Sidekick** with **Don Anderson** as crew came down to the Station on the 5th for Station Appreciation Day and two boat drills with one of the Station's RBS-29s. The Auxiliary is back in business folks.

Activity Details:

* CG Station Rio Vista conducted **05 SAR cases** during the last 30 days. The average February SARs over the last 15 years is 12. The most SARs conducted by the Station in one month was 70 in July 2009. The Station conducted **22 vessel boardings** with 05 terminations. The average February boardings for the last 09 years is 12. The most boardings conducted in one month by the Station was 149 in September 2015.

* Attended **Division 3 staff meeting** on the 10th. In person would you believe. First time I was in uniform other than ODUs in almost two years. It still fits. Well almost.

* Stood 13 days of **Radio Watchstanding (20B)** at the Station for a total of 91 hours and participated in 01 SAR case.

Continuing Notices

* **Auxiliary members are always permitted on the Station in uniform (ODUs or Trops) but must be fully vaccinated.** (See Auxiliary COVID-19 Reconstitution Guidance Version 3 for details). A mask on Station is required indoors when within 6 feet of another even with a completed COVID-19 vaccine. **Give me a call to arrange a group tour. I'd love to show you around. Cell (707) 529-2152 or Station (707) 374-2871.**

* **The Station is available for two boat drills with AUX facilities in Div 3, 5 and 10 in Station's AOR.** Any facility owner or Coxn who wishes to participate, call **BM1 Montoya at 707-374-2871** or me at 707-529-2152 in advance to schedule a meeting date, time and place with the Station's boat.

* **Onsite interactions with CG Station personnel** are highly recommended and sought for any excuse you can think of. Radio Watchstanding is a recommended approach I've used over the past 14 years. It will pay big dividends for the Station and yourself.

Current Projects:

* **Auxiliary Unit Coordinator (AUC)** for CG Station Rio Vista for D11

* Working with **Doug MacPherson** on **CGS Rio Vista 2022 Boating Season Kick-off Event** currently scheduled for April 9th.

* Establishing a working relationship with **newly elected and appointed leadership** for Flotillas in Station's area of responsibility.

* Seeking **Auxiliary Radio Watchstanders** for the Station.

Challenges:

* To continue to be optimistic about the **future of the Auxiliary** in the Delta.

* To obtain more active **AUX facilities** in the Station's area of responsibility.

* To get AUX members certified as **Radio Watchstanders** at Station Rio Vista.

* To continue my Auxiliary activities in the face of ongoing **COVID restrictions** and age.

Agency Interactions:

* Participated as the Auxiliary representative in the Station's monthly **DOIT (Delta Officers Intelligence Team)** meeting on the 5th. Invited participants include; Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Yolo and Contra Costa county sheriff marine divisions, Port of Stockton and Port of West Sacramento PDs, Fish and Wildlife, CG Sector San Francisco Command Center and Sector Intelligence, Cal Boating and Waterways, Cal Guard, Delta Protection Commission, Assemblyman Jim Frasier's office and numerous county and city fire departments.

My Goals and Objectives for the Year:

- * Stand 145 days of **Radio Watch (20B)** at Station Rio Vista for 1,000 hours.
- * Arrange and conduct three **Flotilla tours** of the Station.
- * **Train 10 new Coasties** in Station's AOR and Watch duties.
- * **Train just 01 AUX member** in Station's AOR and Watch duties.
- * Participate in **2022 Boating Season Kick-off** at the Station.
- * **Thank all state local AUX members** for their continuing interest in California boating safety

Steve Harrison FSO/Aux 113-03-05 Sacramento 707-529-215

3-10 FSO-Sellstrom- Working on Diablo repeater.

Division 5- SO-Wheeler- Working on Division SO-CM familiarization.

Division 6-SO- No SO-CM

Division 7- SO-Farmer –Weekly VHF division net. No report filed.

Division 8 SO-Hale-

Division 8: Continues to support Sector Humboldt through members' activities.

Flotilla 08-07, continues to maintain the fuel farm located at Point Arena Lighthouse which is critical to the Helo OPTs. The Flotilla also continues the cleaning the lamp room at Point Cabrillo Lighthouse.

Flotilla 08-08,No activity reported.

Flotilla 08-11,No activity reported.

Flotilla 08-39,The OPTREX at Antlers Resort is in the planning stages. There are questions about Shasta Lake water levels, logistics, and COVID-19 concerns. HELO OPS with Sector Humboldt are in the planning stages. One member in Chico reported recovering from COVID-19.

Sector/Air Station Humboldt has requested input for auxiliary awards. is discussing COVID-19 concerns and possible measures to be put in place.

End Of Report

Division 10- SO-Rafatti- No report filed.

Division 11- SO-Leinan – Working with Station Tahoe on summer radio guard project.

Division 12- Rob Torio-No report filed.

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES/OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Meet all SO-Cm members.
2. Increase TCO operators.
3. Get Diablo and south bay systems back on air.

Goals:

Promote a high level of reliable communications services to the Coast Guard and USCG-AUX using VHF, HF and digital modes (fixed and mobile). This goal can be achieved by doing the following:

1. Complete establishment of trained “Radio Direction Finding Teams” to assist with locating ELT-PLB and Open Microphone issues.
2. Encourage members to achieve TCO status and become HF operators. D11N is in need of additional operators.
3. Hold large and small scale communications exercises to enhance training of members.
4. Train with gold side communications team. Planned training includes Radio Direction Finding, HF and VHF field training exercises within next 8 months.
5. Maximize available training opportunity at D-Train.

PHOTO GALLERY: none