

10 April 2023

TO: Board and Staff

FROM: Larry Olson, DSO-AV

SUBJECT: AuxAir Report for March 2023.

Well, again the weather during March was great for our water needs, but not good for our auxair flying. We cancelled several patrols due to the weather, but did get one flight in on Saturday, 3-18-23. Additionally, Air Station San Francisco called us and needed to get two of their helicopter pilots along with a mechanic to FOB Pt. Mugu so they could pick up a helo and get down to San Diego. Fortunately, Hal Seibert was available and he is also an instrument Aircraft Commander. Hal with Stan Douglas flew the three members from ASSF to Pt. Mugu under poor weather conditions. There were clouds and rain all the way down the coast and Hal was flying under instrument conditions most of the time from leaving the Bay Area until arriving at Pt. Mugu (actually landed at Camarillo Airport). Thanks to Hal and Stan we were able to assist the Air Station with this important mission.

AuxAir was also asked by the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) to participate in a SAREX operation along our northern coast to be conducted on 2 April. Doug Kerr worked with CAP and completed the planning for this exercise. Doug, Adam Kovalevsky and Jimmin Chang flew this mission, which was very successful. Our crew spotted the targets along the coast between Jenner and Pt. Reyes and handled secure radio communications on different frequencies. Jimmin took a number of photos, which demonstrated the work involved in this exercise.

We are now working with the Coast Guard Reserve on planning for another SAR exercise to be held on 15 April 2023. Reserve Units are required to conduct certain exercises annually and they have asked auxair to work with them. We are pleased to work with the Coast Guard Reserves.

We are pleased to recognize our auxair member, Jeff Grave, who is now a certified Observer. Also, auxair member Pete Hnat has completed all of his requirements for Observer and is now preparing his 7015 for approval. Pete is qualified to be an Aircraft Commander and he will start obtaining his aux pilot certification. Additionally, Pete owns a very nice Cessna 182 and he will be bringing this aircraft into aux service.

We were pleased to have completed the AUX-17 (Crew Resource Management – CRM) course, held on 18-19 March in the VADM Johnson Training Room on CGI. This is a required course for Observers, Aircrew, and Pilots. We had two outstanding instructors from National and our students included one from Corpus Christi, TX and one from Chicago, and two from D11S.

Adam Kovalevsky is doing a terrific job taking care of our PPE, including setting up the monitoring and inspection process in AD2; as well as knowing when to reorder our required survival items. This helps DIRAUX in budgeting for equipment and supplies.

Respectfully submitted, Larry Olson DSO-AV