



Date: May 2023
From: Jane D. Smith, DSO-Public Affairs
Thru: Dale Fajardo, DCAPT-Prevention
To: Commodore Curtis Han
Subject: Activities Report April 2023

XX

Division 1 – Marisa Hoke – FSO-PA

* On March 8th, 2022, at the flotilla 14 meeting, Special guest speaker Pacific Strike Team Rescue Swimmer, Clint Johnson, USCG AST (Aviation Survival Technician aka Rescue Swimmer) captivated the flotilla discussing AST qualifications and training as well as SAR events of renown. His wife enlightened the flotilla as to what it is like to be the wife of someone in this risky role.

* In March, Flotilla 14 auxiliarists went on many helo ops patrols with ASTs working with (Aviation Survival Technicians. Alex Bennett, Nancy Marion, Lou Sarto, America's volunteer lifesavers.
(See the Silver Zephyr by Gail Giacomini and Lou Sarto for pics.)

* Flotilla 14 has been working on producing an April 15th event with the Treasure Island Sailing Center and Flotilla 17 Point Bonita on the TISC Opening Day On the Day event, where we'll be giving away over 100 life jackets and building brand awareness of the Auxiliary.
Treasure Island Sailing Center (TISC) Annual Opening Day on the Bay.

☆ TISC main targets are San Francisco and East Bay inner city/under-served youth and adults. *
The event is open to anybody from anywhere.

* This is the ninth year the TISC has held this event.)

☆ USCG Aux roles:

* To educate the public on proper wearing of personal floatation devices/PFDs (life jackets) and to give them away.

* To help make a fun day for visitors while building public awareness of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

WHEN:

☆ Saturday, April 15, 2023.

☆ Auxiliarists arrive at 9:15AM to set up our exhibit. Aux tears down our exhibit 3:00PM.

☆ Event opens to the public at 10:00AM. Event 10:00AM-3:00PM.

See attachment of last year's event from the Silver Zephyr this month.

FSO-PA Flotilla 14, February 2023 (Part 2, part 1 submitted in March) Report Below

* USCG Pacific Strike Team Commander Stacey Crecy, commanding officer of the U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Strike Team, one of three elite USCG teams making up the USCG National Strike Team, was the guest speaker at flotilla 14's February 8th meeting at the Loch Lomond Yacht Club in San Rafael, California. What is the PST? From an article in Coast Guard News, accessible here:

<https://coastguardnews.com/new-commanding-officer-leads-pacific-strike-team/>

"It is a vital national asset made up of a unique, highly trained cadre of U.S. Coast Guard professionals who maintain and rapidly deploy specialized equipment and incident management skills any time to any place or hazard.

The PST is recognized worldwide as an expert authority in preparing for and responding to the effects resulting from oil discharges, hazardous substance releases, weapons of mass destruction events and other emergencies on behalf of the American public."

* I conducted a publicity campaign for the February 25th Dockwalker training. This event was spearheaded by David Bell, hosted by flotilla 14 and presented, as usual, by Vivian Matuk of the California State Parks Department.

This dockwalker training event was focused on Marin auxiliaries, and the public is welcome to attend.

Flotilla 14 members were sent an email announcing the training event from David Bell, and it had also been sent to flotilla 12 for dissemination.

* Sent out more boating class publicity, within 3 weeks of class, when it could stay fresh in people's minds - as it gets closer to the when they decide to do things. (The classes were held as scheduled)

* At March flotilla 14 meeting, the normal time to present flotilla members with a face-to-face announcement, I reminded them about our:

- Dockwalker training, which had been scheduled at the LLYC.

Flotilla Facebook page and pointed them to it so that they can choose to follow it, and to like and share our events on their social media. (Some organizations had already shared our post of the Feb 25th dockwalker training to their Facebook pages, including Latitude 38.)

* More pics still to come at a later date from: Flotillas 14 Central Marin, 17 Point Bonita and 19 Coyote Point held a well-attended, convivial combination Division One Change of Watch at the Berkeley Yacht Club in Berkeley, California (Flotilla 01-04 Central Marin, Flotilla 01-07 Point Bonita, Flotilla 01-09 Coyote Point) on February 4th 2023 at Berkeley Yacht Club. Program attached below.

Smiles abound at February 4th, 2023 combined Change of Watch at Berkeley Yacht Club



**Auxiliarists Michael Mitchel Flt. 14, USCG CAPT. Lam, Sue Fry Flt. 17
Como Dale Fajardo Flt. 19**



(Foreground) DCAPT Chuck Cobery FL 6-10; (Immediate background, left to right) VNACO Mary Kirkwood FL 14, Mrs. Cindy Lam, USCG CAPT Taylor Lam)



Linda Peterson SO-DV, FSO-DV, Flotilla 01-19 Coyote Point. Linda has been an auxiliariest for almost half a century, and her husband was a long time active auxiliariest.

Thanks to Louis Sarto and myself for the pics. Thanks to Gail Giacomini for the attached Silver Zephyr article.

Division 3 – SO-PA – Rich Celia

No report submitted.

Division 4 – Neil Slawson – FC and FSO-PA

Nothing to report.

Division 5 – Jim Matthies–SO-PA

Flotilla 55 FSO PA REPORT

Flotilla 55 participated in the 2023 Fish Festival in Bodega Bay. The event was from 1000 to 1700 both Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd. Participants Saturday were Therese Van Wiele, Bob Smith, Bob's wife Mary who retired last year from the Auxiliary was also there to support us. Jim Matthies was on board also. We had lots of folks stop in to chat about boating, tie knots and throw a heaving line. The weather was pleasant although the wind came up a bit at the end of the day. We were able to get some names and emails of local Sonoma County Boaters interested in Boat America classes, Coast Guard and Auxiliary.

Saturday was a bit cooler and a bit windy also. But still a nice day! We had visitors from the Napa Flotilla 52 participate with us. Dinia and Erik Paananen and the daughter Colleen were there as well as Dan Glenn. Dinia put on her PFD Panda and went to town with Erik to get kids at the festival to pledge to wear their PFD's and be safe on the water. Also, on Sunday we had members from Coast Guard Station Bodega Bay show up to support us. In attendance from the Station were BM2 Harrison Rabalias, BM2 Rojas and SN Angulo. Thank you to both Flotilla 52 members and Station Bodega Bay members for your support. Also of course to our own Flotilla 55 members as well. And to the Fish Festival Organizers who do an excellent job every year!



Therese Van Wiele and Bob Smith at Fish Festival in Bodega Bay April 22, 2023, Young Festival goer pledging to PFD Panda (Dinia Panaanen) to always wear her lifejacket. Erik Panaanen assisting Panda. Fish Fest 2023 Bodega Bay CA.



Festival Entertainer and Magician Cousin Otis takes time on his break to give the heaving line a go. He did fantastic!! Fish Fest 2023 Bodega Bay CA. Flotilla 55 PA Booth Fish Fest 2023.



Station Bodega Bay members BM2 Harrison Rabalias, SN Angulo (Cash) Flotilla 52 Participants Erik and Dinia and FC Dan Glenn.

Division 6 – Jane D. Smith – DSO-PA1 & VCDR

17 April 2023 – Auxiliarist Bard Manager, Flotilla 64, is awarded the well-earned “Cutterman” Certificate and Insignia aboard the CGC Hawksbill in Monterey, California. ***BZ Bard!***



From left to right: LT Matt Peryea, C.O. CG Station Monterey, Auxiliarist Bard Manager, CWO2 ‘BOSN’ Thomas Perez. All three have proudly earned the Cutterman designation.



The crew of the Hawksbill along with several Cutterman who attended the ceremony. Manager is the tall guy in the middle of the second row.



The Cutterman Certificate and a photo of the Hawksbill signed by the crew members. Partially pictured at the top (l. to r.) are D11N OTO Mr. Perez, Auxiliarist Cutterman Gary Kaplan, Auxiliarist Cutterman Bard Mansager, and Mrs. Mansager's left arm holding the Award Folder.

Division 7 – Lana Visser – SO-PA

Utah Lake Spring 4th Grades Field Trips

Division 7, Flotillas 73 and 78, participated in the Utah Lake 4th Grade Spring Field Trips held at Utah Lake State Park. These field trips were held April 25, 27, and May 2, 4 from 10am – 1:30pm. Three school districts (Provo, Nebo, and Alpine) participated, which included 4th Grade students from eleven elementary schools. All total, we talked to over 440 students.

There were eleven different stations, and each class, along with their teacher and adult chaperones, rotated through six stations. The presenters at each station had 25 minutes for their presentation, game, and/or activity with each class. Presentations were focused on Utah Lake's ecology, wildlife and fish habitat, and recreation on Utah Lake. The Utah Lake Authority and Utah Lake State Park sponsored the field trips.

Due to our record-breaking snowpack this year, we chose to focus our presentation on water safety when around the streams and rivers along the Wasatch Front. We discussed the dangers presented by our spring runoff, what happens to streams and rivers when runoff is high, and how to stay safe if they are around water that is being affected by spring runoff. To further stress the importance of water safety during spring runoff (or anytime they are participating in water activities on lakes, streams, rivers, or

even the local public swimming pool or backyard pool) we presented a short discussion on how important it is to wear life jackets, an activity on how to put them on correctly, a discussion and demonstration on Reach, Throw, but Don't Go, and a review of everything we talked about with some of the Coastie Game cards, which the kids loved.



Utah Lake, UT- Auxiliarist Lana Visser talks to the students about Utah's runoff and the dangers of the fast, cold rivers and streams coming off the record-breaking snowpack in the mountains. April 27, 2023. Photo by John-Michael Zimmerle.



Utah Lake, UT - Auxiliarist Bill Ross plays The Coastie Game with the students as a summary of our discussions on water safety. April 27, 2023. Photo by Lana Visser.

The teachers received a packet which included a lesson plan on water safety and a list of resources they can find on the internet to enhance water safety lessons with their students.



Utah Lake, UT – (top left, right) Auxiliarist Paul Custance leads a discussion on the importance of wearing life jackets when around or in water, and how to correctly put them on. May 2, 2023. Photo by Lana Visser.





Utah Lake, UT – The students practiced putting on a life jacket. Each student chose a life jacket, put it on, and learned how to tell if it was the right size, right fit, and was properly adjusted. May 2, 2023.
Photo by Lana Visser.



Utah Lake, UT - Auxiliarist Bill Ross talked to the 4th Grade students about "Reach, Throw, But Don't Go," demonstrating different objects that could be used to help a person struggling in the water, with an emphasis on helping the kids understand they should not go into the water to attempt a rescue themselves.
May 2, 2023. Photo by Lana Visser.

Division 8 – Dorothy DeLope – FSO-PA **CHILDREN'S FAIRE & FESTIVAL**

Flotilla 08-08 Of Lake County participated in the Children's Faire which was held in Lakeport and Clearlake. The Faire was to promote the services and activities available for the children of Lake County and their parents. Included were booths for child safety as well as games and crafts for the youngsters. Approximately 350 people plus children attended the events held on April 15 at Library Park in Lakeport and on April 29 at Austin Park in Clearlake, California.

The Flotilla weighed children for correct life jacket size with parent entering the child's name for the free life jacket raffle. The free lifejackets were made provided by the Konocti Women's Service Club. Also, parents were provided with U.S.C.G. information regarding child safety when out boating. Water Smart Activity books were given to the children.

Flotilla 08-08 of Lake County participating in Children's Faire
Austin Park, Clearlake, California April 29, 2023



Gary Jolley FC Kevin Kealey Roberto Morfin



FC Kevin Kealey weighing child for free lifejacket raffle

Division 10 – Doc Pierce – FC -Flotilla 10-5

Nothing to report

Division 11 – SO-PA – Flotilla 11-03

Nothing to Report

Division 12 – Jean-Pierre Carjuzaa – FSO-PA

Activity: MOM Patrol on April 1, 2023, in San Francisco, CA Bay with Jim Losi, Adam Kovalevsky, Morgan Swiggett and Jean-Pierre Carjuzaa

Report by Jean-Pierre Carjuzaa, FSO-PA

Contributor writer: Jim Losi, Coxswain of Servant

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

District 11N, Flotilla 113-12-91

Upon completion of our risk assessment, Jim Losi, Coxswain and owner of Servant boat patrol, instructed all crew members to wear the full Mustang as the ambient temperature was below 60 ° F.

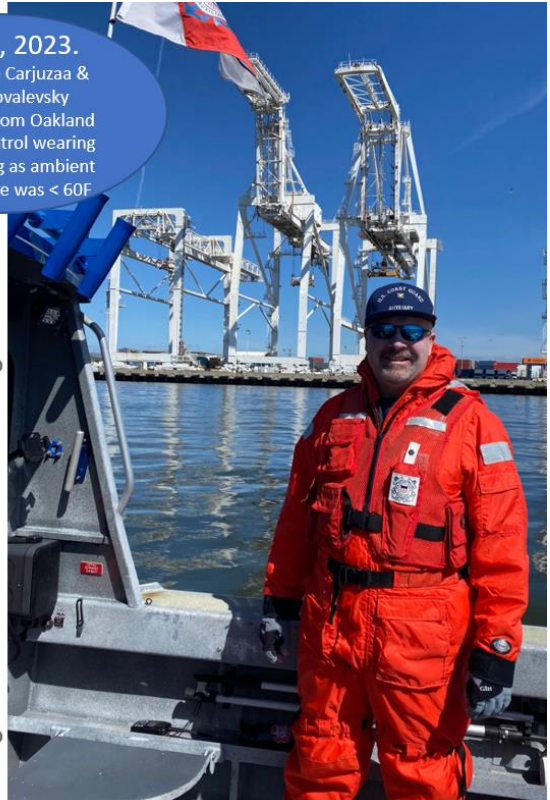
The (2) new 150 HP Honda engines performed as expected at < 3,000 RPM as they needed to be kept at that level in order to complete the break ins.



April 1 2023. Jim Losi, Coxswain, at the Helm of Servant with Morgan Swiggett at Radio duty



April 1, 2023.
Jean-Pierre Carjuzaa &
Adam Kovalevsky
departing from Oakland
on MOM patrol wearing
full Mustang as ambient
temperature was < 60F



We departed toward the Bay Bridge and continued to Angel Island. We were welcomed by a few bay seals, and a beautiful grey whale that broke the surface with its magnificent spout. As the sighting was admirable we had to be assured that the mammal was not hurt or entangled.

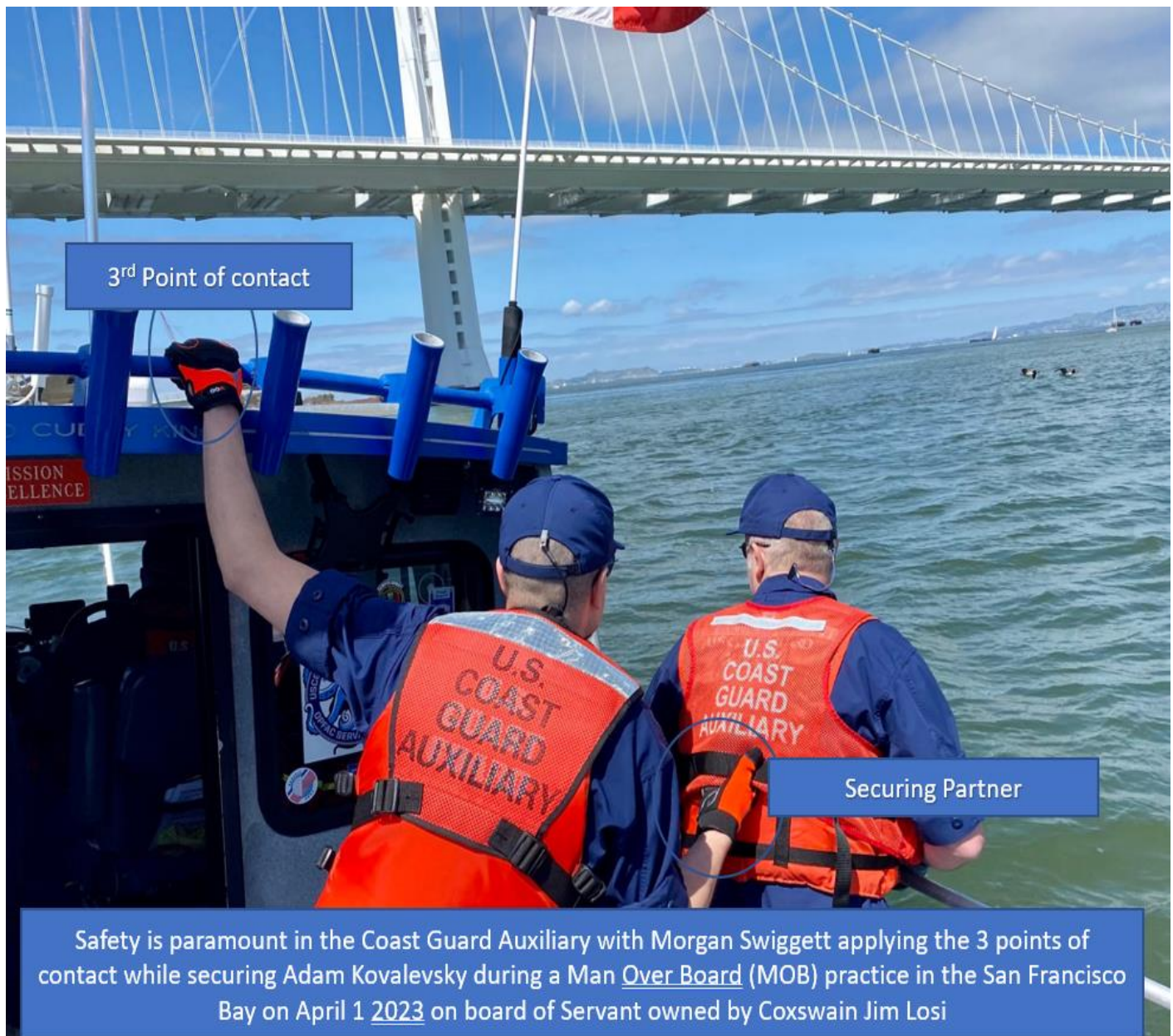
Official report from Coxswain Jim Losi: *“While transiting to Racoon Straights near Angel Island, the crew spotted a gray whale near San Francisco Bay North Channel Lighted Bell Buoy 6 (Figure 1 below). This was confirmed by Morgan Swiggett as Boat Crew Member as he is very familiar with marine life in the Bay. We immediately called Sector SF to report the sighting. We were asked if the whale was involved in an entanglement. We tracked the whale from a safe distance to ensure that it was not entangled and then reported that to Sector.”*

Post Patrol Hot Wash
OPFAC SERVANT



Figure 1 - San Francisco Bay North Channel Lighted Bell Buoy 6 where gray whale was spotted.

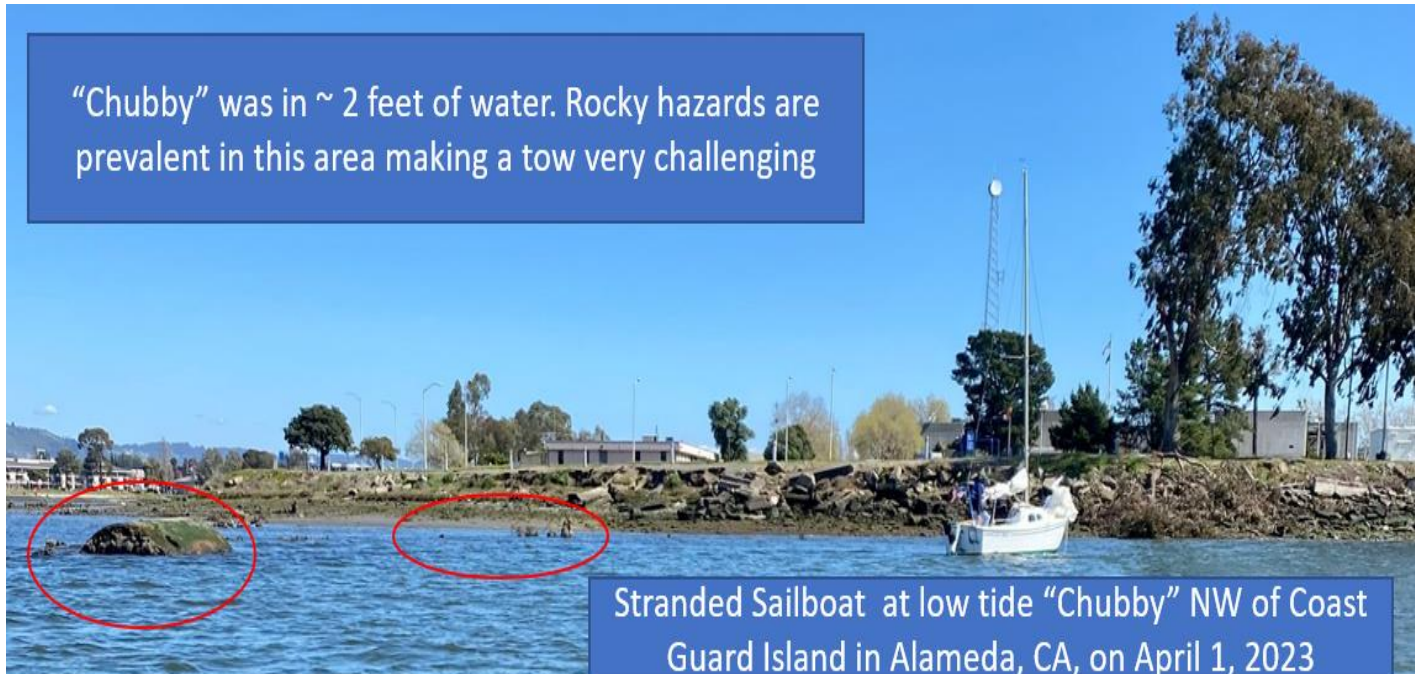
All crew members practiced several Man Overboard (MOB) drills with adherence to basic safety principles as Morgan Swiggett was applying the 3 points of contacts method (see Morgan below with 2 feet well anchored on the vessel deck and his left hand holding onto the cabin handrail). Please note Morgan’s right hand firmly holding Adam’s vest during the recovery exercise.



All members also practiced Radio operation at 30 Mn intervals with the Coast Guard to report Servant's location and the condition of the vessel and that of the crew.

Upon returning to base, we responded to a distress call from Chubby, a sailboat that became stranded near Coast Guard Island in Alameda. We quickly located the vessel ~ ½ mile from our position near the Northwest Shore of the Island with the aid of binoculars as we were informed by the Coast Guard that it had lowered its sails, however, finding the vessel was still a bit challenging as there were no Visual Distress Signal (VDS) or Sound Producing Device used by the sailors.

"Chubby" was in ~ 2 feet of water. Rocky hazards are prevalent in this area making a tow very challenging



Official report from Coxswain Jim Losi: *"As we were RTB to Oakland Yacht Club, we received a broadcast from Sector San Francisco regarding a small sailboat named CHUBBY that was aground on the north end of CGI near the channel day marker. We responded to Sector that we were within eyesight of that area and would investigate. Upon approaching the sailboat CHUBBY we could confirm that she was firmly aground during a dead low tide. The OOD, LT Kenney asked if we could investigate getting a towline to CHUBBY. After several different approaches, it was concluded that the water was just too shallow for a safe approach. We stayed with the sailboat for about 30 minutes to ensure that the crew was and would be safe. LT Kenney released us, but Adam Kovalevsky kept in periodic contact with the skipper of CHUBBY until such time it was known that the skipper and crew were safe. Adam received two letters of appreciation from the skipper and crew of CHUBBY."*

04/05/23

Dear Adam,

Saturday was a difficult day for my crew member and me on the water with my sailboat "Chubby" ground off Coast Guard Island.

I am so grateful that your vessel rescued a fellow seaman.

Your kindness reflects well on the U.S. Coast Guard.

I wish you the best service to the community

Janio Pinheiro

Letter from [Janio Pinterio](#) to Adam Kovalevsky following our action during their [Chubby's](#) ordeal

4-12-2023

Dear Mr. Kovaleski,

I want to express my sincere thanks for you and your crew coming out on April 1 to rescue myself and Janio Pinheiro da Silva. We were the perfect April Fools for sailing into shallow water. We'll try to do better in the future. I wish you, your family and your crew all the best.

PS I hope you like Domino's

IT WAS DEEPLY
appreciated.

(The ^{H₂O} wasn't so deep, lol!)

Sincerely,

Roger Henderson

Overall, this was a great productive and safe day where all crew members felt a sense of accomplishment.

PS: Special thanks to Jim Losi, Morgan Swiggett and Adam Kovalevsky for sharing their knowledge.

Very respectfully submitted,
Jane D. Smith,



District Staff Officer - Public Affairs 1