



U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

District Eleven North Region DISTRICT STAFF OFFICER COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

July 5, 2023 (rev 1)

To: Commodore Curtis Han

Cc: COS Losi

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.
 2. Recruit members who will actively participate in our exciting communications programs.
 3. Train with our communications partners.
 4. Increase Division level communications programs.

Highlights Up:

1. Plans moving forward to schedule quarterly training exercises for 11N and 11S now set for July 8.
2. The Ventrilo VOIP link to our VHF system is reestablished.
3. We offered the TCO workshop at the Mini-D Train. The course was attended by 20 members. In addition, Alan Stanton offered a second on line option for those who could not attend this offering. Thank you Allan!
4. District 11 requested assistance with an EPIRB activation in the delta area. The request was filled by Desmond Thorsson.
5. Contingency Communications Team awarded the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation Award in support of D11 communications programs. The award was made public during the Mini D-Train and will be presented to our 11N and 11S members in the near future. Congratulations to all our members.
6. A meeting was held during Mini-Dtrain with LT Kent ALTOBELLI , our new (Dt). We discussed our current communications programs with him and look forward to a great relationship. He has been invited to attend our SAR EX at Sta Rio Visita.

Highlights/ DOWN:

1. **Diablo is still out of service.**

ADSO Reports:

1. D-DSO-CM Paz: See Div 1 report.
2. ADSO-ARMS:Firehock: No report.
3. ADSO-ACV- Busch: I have nothing to report for the ACV. It has not been in use lately and needs expensive maintenance to keep it operating. The maintenance money has not been authorized and may not be available, so our future use of the vehicle is in question. V/r
4. ADSO-Contingency Communications: Scholz:

SUB June 2023 ADSO-CM Contingency Report

1. Activities this month included attendance at the "mini-DTRAIN" in Alameda, Having the first face-to-face meeting with the newly arrived D11 Telecommunications Chief (the "Dt"), LT Kent Altobelli, and hosting a farewell dinner for the retiring previous D11 Telecommunications Chief, LCDR Jennifer Jojola.

2. Personal activities included 3 sessions as the Net Control Station for the West Coast Region HF Net and four weekly sessions as an Alternate Net Control Station for the "SHARES California HF" net and four session as a participant in the "California Emergency Services Net" (California Office of Emergency Services) and two sessions of the USCGAUX D11 North VHF net. In addition I managed two "ALE Practice Sessions" as a training tool for the D11CCNET (11th CG District Command Center Contingency HF Net).

3. Positive recognition received: During the meeting with LT Altobelli, I was informed that the "COAST GUARD DISTRICT 11 TELECOMMUNICATIONS TEAM" had been awarded a CG Meritorious Team Commendation for "its efforts to enhance mission support through improved contingency communications capabilities". The team is made up of both CG Auxiliary members and CG active duty members. The MTC will be signed by T>R> LAVIER, Capt, Chief of Response CGD11.

4.1 Positive steps: LT Altobelli is arranging for Telecommunications Team members to participate as "observers" at the CGD11 COOP exercise between Alameda and Sacramento to occur in late August.

4.2 Positive Steps: LT Altobelli has indicated his desire to spend some funds from the D11 Dt budget in support of the Telecommunications needs and has requested a list of priorities and amounts for expenditures.

5.1 Needed Focus and Attention: For a variety of reasons, the NoNet-1 exercise scheduled for 8 July, has been postponed until sometime between late August and mid-September. On or about mid-July, an on-line conference is requested to determine the impact of the postponement and evaluate needed changes to plans and activities for the D11CCNET program.

5.2 Needed Focus and Attention: The management and structure of the approval procedures for Operational Radio Facilities involving both the AUX 7004 Offer for Use form and the records for facilities in AUXDATA 2 continue to be a source of difficulties. An online conference has been requested to involve both DSO-CM's in D11, both OTO's in D11, and the National Division Chief for Telecommunications. That hopefully will take place sometime in July.

5. ADSO-CM Utah-Williams: ADSO-CM-D7CC:

Communications Trailer

The trailer has been deployed to Utah Lake State Park. The Aviation radio has been secured in a go box for deployment and was up and operational during the extended 4th of July celebration. We are in the process of obtaining a tripod to mount the aviation radio antenna when deployed. During this extended weekend we utilized one of the antennas for the VHF/UHF radios to receive signals. This worked exceptionally well. We secured the microphone as the radio was used primarily to monitor aircraft traffic for the Provo and Spanish Fork airports. The flight pattern for take-off and landing approach is above the trailers ground location. We were able to monitor tower communication to all departing and incoming aircraft. The location of the trailer was within an area with power, accessibility, and designated for the use of a mobile command center. The Trailer became the de facto command center to assist Park Ranger and Utah County Search and rescue personnel who were engaged in responding to a capsized vessel as well as a swamped vessel. Additionally, Auxiliary TCO

personnel directed appropriate support personnel to assist boaters who left a disabled vessel, entered the water and walked to shore.

Weekly Net:

The Division 7 weekly Amateur Radio Net continues to be conducted each Wednesday evening 1815 locate time 3 additional auxiliary members have been added to the roster. Members rotate Net Control duties to develop capacity and confidence in performing this important function. **Amateur FCC**

Technician License Qualification

We encourage all FCC operators who desire to participate in additional USCGAUX net activity to acquire the appropriate UHF/VHF equipment. Currently two members are working to seek Technician status to participate in the Wednesday evening Amateur net.

Recruitment

As a result of the excellent location of the Communications Trailer at Utah Lake we visited with several potential members who expressed an interest in joining the Auxiliary and participating in our operations.

One interested potential member is an FCC Extra license holder and was intrigued by the possibility of learning more about our HF contingency net and the ALE communication software we utilize. He recently became the Volunteer Communications Director of a city that is located at the Southern end of Utah Lake.

V/R Michael L. Williams

6. ADSO-CM AA-Farmer: NO report filed.
7. ADSO-CM CC/RDF-Thorsson: No report filed.
8. ADSO-CM-TK-Sellstrom: No report filed.
9. DSO-AUX MON- Flores-
8 hours of AUXMON monitoring for the month of May with no discrepancies.
10. ADSO-CM-ALE-Montagne- Working extensively on future training exercises.
11. ADSO-CM Spectrum Management- Simmons- Participated in Field Day Exercise, 81 contacts.

Eric

SO REPORTS BY DIVISION:

Division 1- DDSO-CM PAZ-

Highlights/Topics:

Details:

FSO Reports:

Flotilla 12: Alfonso Fastino stood watch on AUX COM Station Golden Gate June 11.

Flotilla 14: Carol Paz and Kevin Luke AWO program, Monday VHF Nets, Attended Mini D Train. Carol also participated in Aux Com for towing exercises.

Flotilla 17: Report Received. No activity to report

Flotilla 19: Report on file.

Continue to check in on the Monday radio net at 1900 hours, channel 83A. Check in is relayed by Redwood City Mobile 1.

Projects: OPEX July 29.

Goals and Objectives:

Division 3- SO-Stanton:

Planning continues for SAR EX July 18.

3-1: Foster: No report filed.

3-3: No FSO-CM

3-5: AUX FSO-CM / AUC Harrison **Highlights**

* The **Ready For Operations (RFO) Inspection** was conducted by the CG Stan Team from Yorktown on the 05th thru the 08th. It included inspection of Crew gear, Station's facilities and paperwork. Underway drills for all Crew members was central to the inspection. Station passed with flying colors. Yahoo.

* The Station far surpassed the other Stations in Boardings according to **Sector's Enforcement Report for June**. Senior said "We spanked them". **Our Crew did 83** and our nearest competitor (Monterey) only did 43. Vallejo did 25. San Francisco did 33. Lake Tahoe did 29. Golden Gate did 10. Bodega Bay did 19. Hats off to Rio Vista's Crew. Ya team!

* Three of the Station's most experienced crewmembers (Coxswains and/or Officers of the Day) moved on to new assignments and adventures. **BM2 Erickson** went to Bangor WA, **BM2 Rotor** went to Oahu HI and **MK2 Luna** went to Yorktown VA. No replacements as yet, if at all. Bummer!

* The AUX held a training session on **Marine Safety and Environmental Protection** at the Station on the 10th. A total of 12 attendees from Divisions 3, 5 and 10 were there. Instructors included **Jeff Fite FC 3-10**, **Morgan Swiggett** and **Joseph Chavoen**. **Darcy Kauer** and **Lynda Haynes** provided a terrific lunch for all including the CG Crew. A nice donation to the Station's Morale Fund was made by AUX attendees. Great job guys.

* The **CLEAR (Comprehensive Law Enforcement Assessment of Readiness) Team** from D11 in Alameda conducted a LE (law Enforcement) Inspection on the 12th and 13th. This included Mock Boardings, Use of Force and BUI (boating while intoxicated) Evaluations. The Crew passed. Yippee!

* The Station provided an RBS-29 on trailer for display at the **Regional Safety Day** hosted by the Consumnes Community Services District on the 17th. Thanks to **Jeff Fite, FC 3-10**, who

helped organize the event and **MK2 Randleman and SN Gonzalez** who crewed the trailer and answered a zillion questions.

* The Station Crew gave a tour and Boat ride for 06 **Sea Scouts** on the 28th. I briefed them on radio communications in the Station's Comms Center. Great kids. Thanks to **Don Anderson and Captain Hardin for instructing**. Thanks to **BM 2 K Hansen, BM3 Grant and SN Brown** for crewing.

* Busy month for the Station's Crew! The busiest months (July and August) are yet to come. Come on over and help out. The Crew will really appreciate it and it could be fun.

* Happy 84 Birthday to the Auxiliary.

Activity Details

* CG Station Rio Vista conducted **15 SAR cases** during the last 30 days including 01 by **Captain Hardin**. The average June SARs over the last 10 years is 19. The most SARs conducted by the Station in one day was 13 on a Sunday in July 2009. The Station conducted **27 Vessel Boardings** with 03 terminations. The average June boardings for the last 10 years is 37.

* **Morgan Curtis VFC 5-3** stood 18 hours of **Radio Watchstanding (20B)** over 04 days.

* I stood 13 days of **Radio Watchstanding (20B)** at the Station for a total of 91 hours.

Current Projects:

* Working with **Doug MacPherson, BM1 Swofford, BM2 K Hansen, Don Anderson, John Hardin and Russ Kaiser** on another **SAREX** scheduled for July 18th at the Station.

* Working with **Kit Galvin, 5-3 VDC DIV 5; BM1 Swofford, OPS; and Don Anderson, Div 3;** in joint participation with Station on **Rio Vista Bass Derby** booth and **RBS-29** display October 13, 14, 15th. CG Recurters will also attend.

* Recruiting **Auxiliary Radio Watchstanders** for Rio Vista Station to supplement Morgan and I. Come on. It's not that hard if I can do it. The CG Crew will love you for it.

Challenges:

* To get AUX members to come to the Station for a visit and interact with the Crew.

My Goal and Objective

* To not complain about things I can't change

Division 4- SO-CM Cooley:

1) Aux Net nothing but static Monday last - checked myself and Coyote Point Mobile 20 in by text message.

2) Diablo repeater still not full on, but it is supposed to be any day now.

3) Recertification process should be done from our end for RC Radio 1 and RC Mobile 1; waiting for final. Also, applied for a second land station, tentatively RC Radio 2.

Shawn Cooley

SO-CM Div.4

Division 5- SO-CM Gleason: No report filed.

Division 6 - SO-CM Huynh: No report filed.

Division 7-SO-CM Farmer: Excused.

Division 8- Felton: No report filed.

Division 10- Brady: No report filed.

Division 11: Leinan: No report filed.

Division 12: Robert Torio:

I will be mentoring TCO candidate Jeff Grave, 12-91 through his TCO PQS over the next month or so. Other than that, nothing to report.

Photos:

Interior of USCG trailer at Utah Lake

