

06 September 2021

TO: Board and Staff
FROM: Larry Olson, DSO-AV
SUBJECT: AuxAir Report for August 2021.

We are continuing our ground school training at Livermore Airport for new observer and pilot candidates. Ron Darcey, with the assistance of Russ Kaiser and Gene Pasqual, are putting on this training with presentations from others, such as Doug Kerr and Hal Seibert. These are all-day classroom training sessions on Saturdays held in a classroom at Livermore Airport. The ground training is expected to be completed by the end of September and the candidates will then be ready to start their flight training. We started with eight aux member candidates, but one has postponed further classroom training due to Covid.

We now have five aircraft that have been re-certified and available to fly auxair missions for the Coast Guard, the Auxiliary, and our allied agencies. We continue to support NOAA in conducting surveillance and photo flights on subjects of interest to them. We also continue to locate and photograph abandoned and derelict boats in the Delta and report these to Wil Sumner.

Our first Squadron Dinner/Meeting, following Covid, was on July 27th and we had over 20 auxiliaries in attendance with a very informative program. Our next Squadron Dinner/Meeting will be on Tuesday, 28 September 2021 at the Holiday Inn, Dublin. We expect a good turn out and will have more subjects of interest to aux aviation. We are also working on our next Aviation Safety Workshop and swim qualification, which we hope to do in person if Covid conditions permit. Otherwise we will do the Workshop virtually and may have to find a pool somewhere other than CGI for the swim qualification.

In the category of "you never know what you will find"; Doug Kerr and I were flying a Bravo Patrol on 01 September 2021. We were headed for the Golden Gate Bridge and about a half mile off shore in the vicinity of Daly City, when we spotted a strange object floating in the Ocean. Upon closer inspection, we observed this to be some kind of large segmented structure that consisted of five or six segments, all strung together with a very large orange ball or buoy at one end. We estimated the total length at over 100 feet and considered this to be a definite hazard to navigation. We took photos of this object and reported it to Sector. Sector appreciated our observation and requested we send them our photos, which we did upon returning to Hayward Airport.

Respectfully submitted

Larry Olson, DSO-AV