



U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY
District Eleven North Region
DIVISION COMMANDERS REPORT



To: Dean McFarren, Commodore

15 Oct. 2021

Cc: District Board and Staff

From : Lewis C Derfuss, Division Commander

Division: 5

HIGHLIGHTS/"3 UPS":

1. Working with Division and Flotilla staff to complete elections
2. Division 5 and our Flotillas again start transition to live/hybrid meetings.
3. All Programs resuming within stated guidelines with emphasis of completing Coxswain and Boat Crew qualifications and annual 12-hour minimums.

DETAILS:

1. Our Division complete Randy McCormick new DCDR Bob Schabert new VDCDR Two Flotilla elections complete FL 51 with Steve Johnson FC and Greg Gulevich VFC, FL 55 Frank Capurro FC and James Matthies VFC. Upcoming elections FI 52 this Sat has one candidate for VFC Eric Paananen and no FC candidate—actively working on this issue, FL 53 Tues with Kit Galvin as FC and Morgan Curtis as VFC and FL 57 with no candidates for FC or VFC---also actively working on this issue and will schedule a special election when we get candidates. Both Division and Flotilla elected leadership looking to finding staff members as well. Guidelines for conducting electronic elections have been communicated and discussed. All elections will again be electronic as directed by DIRAUX and senior leadership with candidates submitting intent to run letters 14 days prior to elections.
2. After receiving updated guidelines Division and Flotillas looking to again try live/hybrid meetings starting in November.
3. We hope our program activities don't move backwards because on new Covid spikes. These activities include Patrols, Boat Crew Training, VE's, PV's, PA, and PE events. We encourage all members to take advantage of Webinars and live activities. FL 55 and FI 53 continue to have multiple approved patrols including crew and trainees from other flotillas as well as our flotillas. After successfully completed a Mini-OPTREX on 4 Sept with Curtis Han as QE and requalified 2 Coxswains and 3 crew we focused on Division 5 OPTREX hosted by Flotilla 55 at Sta Bodega Bay. This was another great success with two initial Coxswains Thomas Herbst, and Brian Barton, one initial Crew Therese VanWiele, Requal of two Coxswains Wil Sumner and Thomas Hurley and three Crew, Larry Kubo, James Matthies, and John Teague, BRAVO ZULU to all and also to our QE's Dustin Finkelson and Curtis Han. This was a great example of a team effort of FI 55 who hosted OPTREX provided one vessel Margarita, Coxswain and crew support, FL 52 and 53 who provided two vessels SAR DOG and KOKUA II 2 Coxswains and crew support. Additionally, FL 55 along with Food Services (CA) prepared two meals for crews' consumption. After less than a two week break, we rolled right into supporting Fleet Week with six Patrols on the Box. SAR DOG all four days with Derfuss as Coxswain and crews and trainees Tom Hurley, Ron Nathan, Curtis Wheeler, Dinia Paananen, Eric Paananen, Michael Gonzaga and KOKUA II on Sat and Sun with Coxswain McCormick and Crews and Trainees Stephen Kilgraiff, James Matthies, Curtis Morgan, John Albrecht. Another area we can address through PE classes on-line, PV's and VE's, which I refer to as Preventable SARs. I encourage those who are qualified and feel safe to do so to hit the boat ramps in the Delta and perform VE's— They save lives! by ensuring boat have proper safety equipment to deal with emergencies that may arrive as well as preventing them from happening in the first place.

PROJECTS:

1. We have scheduled on District calendar--2021 COW for Division 5 for 5 Dec. Have been in communications with new TRACEN Leadership and working on details to plan another great event.
2. We are working on preparing members to take on positions of leadership as both elected and appointed staff officers as the election season for 2022 is rapidly approaching.

CHALLENGES/OBSTACLES/OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Time and funding constraints—We are again in an operations Stand Down due to funding and new software issues---So next possible patrols unless CG Critical needs arise will not be until December, if at all.
2. Focus on individual Flotilla strengths and combined and open up and communicate training opportunities among Flotilla's, using combined Flotilla efforts working together to achieve maximum results.

AGENCY INTERACTION:

1. Looking forward to again working closely with Sta Vallejo, Sta Rio Vista and Sta Bodega Bay staff in providing Operational Support with Joint Patrols to support both CG Station and Division Boat Crew Training, Qualification, and Currency by providing AUXFAC's and Crews upon request as well as routine support to AOR as allowed.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Most have been previously highlighted in this report: To summarize: Retain, attract, train members. Increase support to CG Missions by use of increased qualified members working toward some focused goals. Have Fun in doing the above and Fellowship. Addressing and working towards breaking down the barriers working against our success. Lead Division 5 to be the Premier Division. Strive to win NACO 5 Star award across the Division—achieved 4 of 5 Flotilla submitted and approved

PHOTO GALLERY: Bodega Bay OPTREX



SAR DOG at Sta Bodega Bay Dock for OPTREX SAR DOG with KOKUA II doing Side Tow QE Eval



Clam Chowder Celebration at Sta. Bodega Bay



Margarita Towing SAR DOG



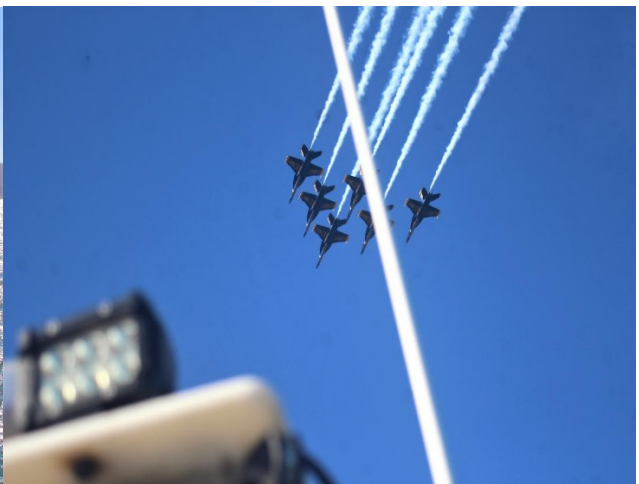
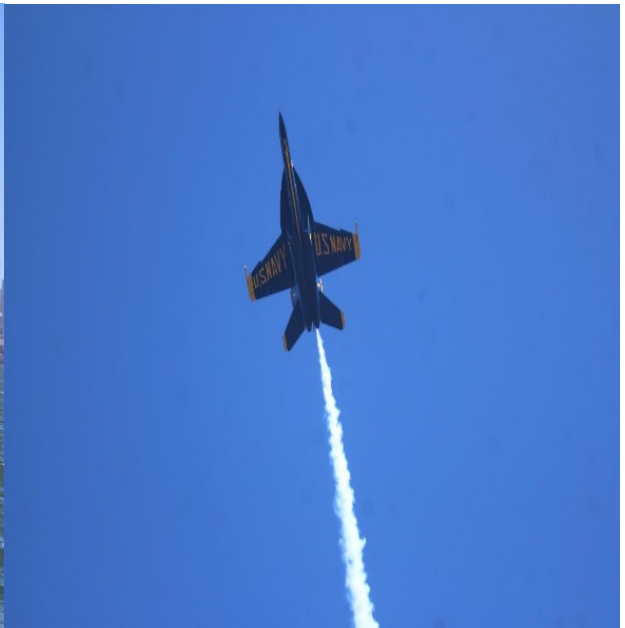
KOKUA II Towing SAR DOG

Fleet Week Photos

KOKUA II on SF Bay



Blue Angles Perform





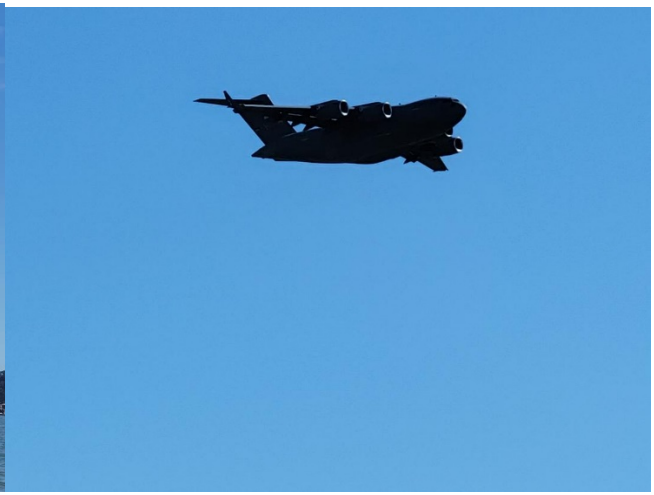
President Roosevelt Ship USS Potomac



Blue Angels with Bay Bridge in background



United Airlines 787 Flyover



Travis AFB C-17 Flyover



Travis C-17 over Golden Gate Bridge



Coast Guard Cutter Kern



Fleet Week Parade of Ships Fire Boat Lead



Navy Stealth Guided Missile Cruiser



2021 Fleet Week Parade of Ships coming under Golden Gate Bridge