



Above Board

Newsletter of Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 4, Des Moines, Iowa

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8WR Fall Conference



Ralph Tomlinson (second from left) and Jeff Towle (third from left) accept the Coast Guard Auxiliary Commendation Medal from Admiral Mary Landry.
(U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photos by Phil Bailey)



A Color Guard presents the colors at the opening of the Fall Conference in Branson.
(U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photos by Phil Bailey)

Training, awards and fellowship are at the center of the district's fall conference, which was held in Branson this year. The 8th Western Rivers District of the Coast Guard Auxiliary holds a spring and a fall conference every year at different locations across the district. With the fall conference in Branson, it was a unique location for fellowship and entertainment.

Training seminars included a briefing on operations by the OTO, ICS 210 training, how to nominate people for awards, building a website, how to create a newsletter and public education best practices discussion.

Saturday evening a banquet was held to honor various Auxiliarists for their outstanding contributions. Flotilla 4 members Trevor Henderson, Jeff Towle and Nick Critelli were awarded the Auxiliary Commendation Medal with operational device for their service with the North Dakota flooding. These Auxiliarists supported the Coast Guard by staffing emergency operations centers in Minnesota and North Dakota during the flooding and helped to task assets and relay critical information.

Flotilla 4 members Suzanne Tomlinson, Ralph Tomlinson and Jeff Towle attended this year's fall conference. The spring conference will be held in Minneapolis / St. Paul in March.

Iowa's Volunteer Lifesavers!

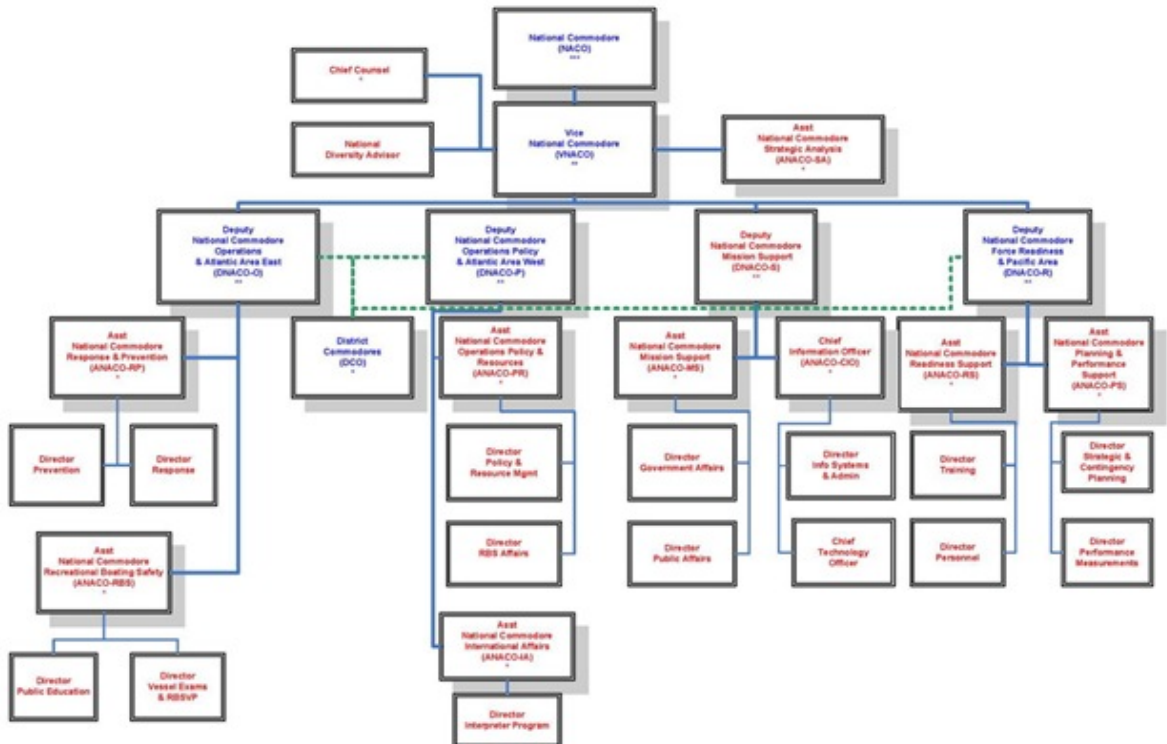
Coast Guard Auxiliary Restructures

National Organization

Coast Guard Auxiliary National Commodore Nick Kerigan announced major changes to Coast Guard Auxiliary National Organization. The staff is being organized to mesh closely with Coast Guard organization to facilitate greater synergies and effectiveness as the Coast Guard moves toward implementing Modernization, Kerigan said. This reorganization will enable the Auxiliary to meet future needs and will facilitate performance and readiness. Deputy National Commodores (Two Stars) are established for Operations, Operations Policy, Mission Support, and Force Readiness.

Assistant National Commodores (One Star) will oversee Response & Prevention, RBS, Operations Policy & Resources, International Affairs, Mission Support, Chief Information Officer, Readiness Support, and Planning & Performance Support, Chief Counsel, and Strategic Analysis. Department Chiefs and Deputy Department Chiefs will now be Directors and Deputy Directors. There are no organizational or name changes below Deputy Director. - Coast Guard Auxiliary Press Release

**Coast Guard Auxiliary
Functional Alignment Diagram
12 August 2009**



The Bridge

This month's flotilla meeting will be very important as we elect new leaders. There are two candidates for Flotilla Commander; Ralph Tomlinson and Norma Newton. Trevor Henderson intends to run for the Vice Commander. Whoever is elected, I am confident that they will continue to make our flotilla the best it can be.

Congratulations to Trevor, Jeff and Nick for earning the Auxiliary Commendation Medal for their service with the North Dakota flooding. At this business meeting we have a lot of awards and certificates to give out since we have not had a face-to-face business meeting in quite some time. Everyone has worked hard this season and I think that we are all ready for a break from our fast-paced operations tempo into a much calmer training tempo.

This month Division 33 held their elections and Jean Goble was re-elected for another term as the Division Commander and Frank Reiss was re-elected for another term as the Division Vice Commander. Congratulations to them.



Travis Daniels, Flotilla Commander,

On The Air With Flotilla 4

Members of Flotilla 4 will take to the airwaves as K0G on October 17th. Flotilla 4 members will go on the air to participate in the Coast Guard Auxiliary's "Special Event Amateur Radio Day 2009."

This special event has been running for the past 11 years, and now has up to 60 U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary High Frequency (HF) stations operational for this year's event.

The event commemorates the 70th anniversary of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and HF Stations from all across the country will be operational on amateur radio frequencies all day during this event.

Flotilla 4 will operate from an HF station ran by Tony Radebaugh (N0NI) on his acreage outside of Perry. This unique facility has over twenty radio towers and an unknown number of antennas from which to transmit.

To get involved talk to either Roland Newton or John Halbrook.



ABOVE: Brandon Butters works the radio to make contact with a distant station during the 2008 event.

BELOW: Jeff Towle (left) discusses a contact with Roland Newton.

(U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photos by Doug Jansen)

Last Course of the Season

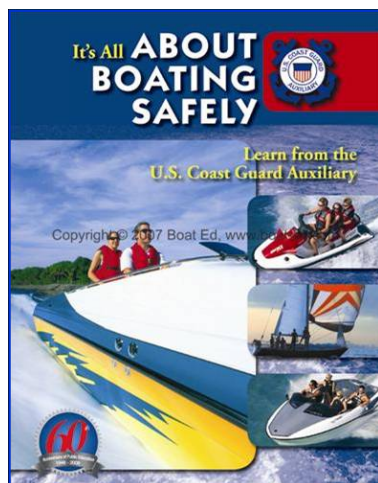
A boating safety class is a great way to cap off an operational season. On October 8th and 10th, Flotilla 4 hosted an About Boating Safely class at the Saylorville Lake Oak Woods Learning Center. The class is an introductory course designed to meet the boating education needs of recreational boaters.

The benefit to a face-to-face class is the ability to answer questions, demonstrate equipment and further explain the application of boating procedures. This class had four students with varied boating backgrounds.

"Students were able to learn about boating and navigation rules, parts of a boat, proper operator safety and emergency procedures." said instructor Doug Jansen. "We were able to show the students different boating safety devices and explain why they are so important to a boater."

Instructors for the class were Jeff Towle, Norma Newton and Doug Jansen.

Flotilla 4 will offer the About Boating Safety class again in May of 2010 at Saylorville Lake and Lake Red Rock.



*Jeff Towle explains what a type I life jacket does during the About Boating Safety course.
(U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photo by Doug Jansen)*

Tomlinson Returns From ICS 341 Training

Auxiliarist Ralph Tomlinson recently returned from ICS 341 training in San Pedro, California.

ICS 341 is an Incident Response Planning Workshop which is a four-day Coast Guard position specific course that presents the concepts, principles, and protocols of the Planning Section duties intended to familiarize students with the process mechanics of planning activities in support of an incident.

Tomlinson was the only Coast Guard Auxiliary member who participated in the training alongside 30 other active duty Coast Guard members and civilian employees. He participated in this training in order to work towards the Coast Guard qualification to be able to instruct the Incident Command System level 300 course.

Three New Members Join Flotilla 4

We have been fortunate to be able to recruit three new members into our flotilla.

Bill Eggers of Des Moines is a teacher at East High School. He is a volunteer firefighter with the North Warren Fire Department and is currently studying for his EMT certification. He lives with his wife Angie and children James and Miranda.

Marty Robey of Des Moines is a plumber with Cook Plumbing. He is also an avid photographer and is on the American Red Cross National Reserve Staff as a Photojournalist with the Advanced Public Affairs Team. He enjoys spending time with his daughter Haleigh and his two dogs.

Chris Shade of Madrid works for Manatt's in Ames. He was a firefighter in the military and enjoys spending time with his wife, Beth, and their children Sean and Morgan.



New Auxiliarists (left to right) Bill Eggers, Marty Robey and Chris Shade.
(U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Photo by Doug Jansen)



Flotilla 4, Des Moines, Iowa

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Travis Daniels
 Flotilla Commander
fc@flotilla4.org

OCTOBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

NOVEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

October 8 & 10—About Boating Safely

Oct 8: 1800—2100 hours

Oct 10: 0800—1300 hours

USACE OWL Center—Cost \$20 for the Public

October 10—New Member Training

1300—1800 hours

USACE OWL Center

October 10—Division 33 Election Banquet

1800—2200 hours

Bass Pro Shop—Council Bluffs

UOD: Tropical Blue

October 17—ICS 300 Training—Omaha, NE

0800—1700 hours

Contact Ralph Tomlinson to register

October 17—CG Aux Ham Radio Special Event

0800—1700 hours

October 18—Flotilla Business Meeting & Elections

1400—1600 hours

November 14—Flotilla Business Meeting

0900—1100 hours

Camp Dodge Building B-62

November 14—Flotilla Training & Holiday Party

1100—1700 hours **AUX Weather Training**

Camp Dodge Building B-62

1800—2100 hours—**Holiday Party at the Dodge House**

December 8—Flotilla Business Meeting / Webinar

1900—2000 hours