

# **THE AUXESIS**

## **DI7 – DIRAUX NEWSLETTER** 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

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### **1 - FROM THE DIRECTOR**

LCDR Sue Albright

It's an exciting time of year as all flotillas complete their elections and all of our newly elected leaders begin drafting goals with their members for the coming year. I can't stress enough that the Director's office, your District Board members, and the DSOs are here to help!

The fine people I mentioned above have already been busy preparing an excellent November Flotilla Commander School which will be held again at the Reserve Naval Training Center on Ft Richardson. There are slots for all FCs and VFCs to attend. Please make it a priority as it will set you up for success in the coming year helping your team of flotilla members meet their goals. Your newly elected Commodore, Michael Robinson, will lead this class. He has much in store for you.

Sector Report: Many of you have asked about the current and future status of Sector Offices. Currently, both Sector Juneau and Sector Anchorage are understaffed and working hard to learn many new duties. They are challenged daily trying to do the "king's business". They are doing well, and continue to take on more of an operational role. They have not taken over the operational oversight of cutters, boats, or our Auxiliary boats yet. Both Sectors have created and are staffing a "Sector Command Center". For those members who were around when we had Group

Ketchikan, these Command Centers will be similar to the old Group "Operations Center". The Sector Command Center mirrors the D17 Command Center in duties, but is smaller in scope of responsibility. There are SAR Controllers now assigned to both Sectors. These petty officers are learning the ropes from our D17 Command Center and have begun to take over some of the smaller District SAR cases in their geographic area of responsibility when tasked by the D17 Command Center. Juneau and Anchorage Sector Command Centers each have past employees of the D17 Command Center working there to train the new people. In Juneau, Petty Officer Rich Reichenbach is now assigned to the Sector Command Center. In Anchorage, Senior Chief Jimmy Belcher and Petty Officer Doug Green are now working at the Sector Command Center. Those names are familiar to many of you. The COMMCENs will work for the Sectors soon. Next summer when you are on safety patrols, the COMMCEN you are conducting Ops and Position Checks with is reporting to the Sector Command Center. That will be your biggest change regarding Sectors in 2007. The 2007 Auxiliary Operations Order (OPORD) will reflect this change and clearly outline guidance on how to work for your Sector while on patrol. Bottom line, you have the same job to do as boat operators. In 2007, for items that you used to notify or report to the D17 Command Center by phone or via the COMMCEN, you will notify or report to the Sector Command Center, unless specifically asked to report to the D17 Command Center. This explanation is a condensed version; I will be providing more guidance in the months to come.

There is a new Commandant "PVC Policy Letter" regarding Auxiliary examiners for CFVE and UPV. The intent of the letter is fantastic. It seeks to institutionalize consistent interaction between the Auxiliary examiners and the active duty Coasties who manage the exam program at the Sector offices (old MSOs). Annual refresher training is part of this new policy letter. Just like a mandatory workshop for exams, the refresher training will bring all examiners up to speed on any changes to the exam program. A requirement for letting the Sector know when you are conducting exams is also in the new policy. Sectors view examiners as an extension of their team, knowing where you are and that you can assist them as a set of eyes in that harbor for other incidents helps them to better do their job. In D17, the UPV/5-Star program will still be run by District, Rick Janelle and MST1 Fernandez, but the Sectors will become more involved in the qualification and the orders process. The CFVE program in each Sector will be run by the Sector CFVE Coordinator. D17 has made annual training money available for both Auxiliary exam programs. If you are a current examiner, plan on attending workshops this winter in your local area conducted by Sector and Rick Janelle. For some, this may be your first opportunity to meet Sector personnel. Please use every opportunity to educate your Sector on the Auxiliary. First impressions are critical for the future of our partnership with Sector and I know I can count on all of you.

There are also some items in the PCV Policy Letter that created concern for DIRAUX, DCO, the Sectors and D17 current examiners. I have spent the past 4 months working with National Staff, D17 staff, Sectors, and DCO Folkerts to gain clarification on issues that we (D17) had. I am pleased to tell you that Commandant staff has assured D17 that the Sectors can adjust minimums (reduce them) to meet the geographical and workload needs of each area. Bottom line: please be assured that these new requirements for time and exams will be "do able" for our volunteer examiners. I will be sending email to all current examiners in the 5-Staff and CFVE program to update them on Sector's plan for their area. Our D17 goal is to have all new "changes" in place for next spring so that our examiners can start the boating season with a renewed partnership with their Sector counterparts and all updated exam information to provide the very best in exams for D17.

Many Auxiliary Operations members are aware that there was a fuel issue last August. As fuel prices skyrocketed around the nation, our D17 OPFACs and SAFEBoats were busy training and patrolling in our normal fashion with an increased number of OPFACs and an increased enthusiasm to patrol for the Coast Guard. Those two factors soon dried up our initial fuel funding. Our District Commander stepped up to the plate and additional funds were provided to help us finish our patrol season. We utilized \$47,000 in fuel. Our initial fuel funding from Commandant was \$23,000. I am happy to report that there will be an \$8,000 increase in fuel funds from Commandant in 2007. As you can see, that will not meet our operational need. I am on a Budget Focus Group with the Chief Director and National Auxiliary Staff this winter. We will review all Auxiliary budget issues. I hope to successfully implement some changes to how fuel is funded.

This effort will not effect/increase our 2007 fuel funds from Commandant, which have already been issued. So, I will again be asking our District Commander for additional funds. He will provide us with those funds. He knows our Auxiliary Operations help him extend the “reach” of the Coast Guard for assistance and SAR.

At the same time, I need your help in solidifying our operations program by having “operational plans.” It is a prudent thing to do, knowing that we will be living with higher fuel prices and shrinking fuel dollars. Chief Gross will be working with each operational flotilla/ geographic operational area to write specific plans of operations this winter. These operational plans will clearly show our District Commander and his staff how the Auxiliary uses our fuel. These are plans that show how we prudently use our fuel funds. The plans should include definitions of various patrol areas in each geographic location, specific tasks accomplished on routine patrols, training plans for the summer months, and SAREX plans. These plans increase our professionalism. They show our District Commander the large bang he gets for each fuel dollar we spend. They will also be a good informational training tool for DIRAUX to use when training our new Sector Command Centers on how our various Auxiliary geographic areas of operation are handled.

I ask each new FC to task their FSO-OP to begin working on an operations plan. The Whittier flotilla has agreed to go first and their team has begun making a plan. As you all write your plans, please use the following criteria. Training absolutely must happen and is the building block for any operational patrol plan. On the active duty side, it generally takes 2-3 hours of training to provide 1 hour of operations at a boat station. It takes more boats to do a training event than to do a patrol. Look at your area of operation and decide how many patrol areas are within that operational area. Schedule your OPFACs to cover certain patrol areas when applicable. Share these patrol areas, schedules and plans with your Active Duty unit (Station, Mustang, etc) when possible to enhance their understanding of what you do. Chief Gross and I are available to assist you and to provide you with more information regarding operational plans.

## **2 – BRAGGING RIGHTS!**

a. The following members are recognized for their **member service anniversaries** in the **3<sup>RD</sup> quarter of 2006:**

### **JULY**

SHARON WHITE – 25  
BRUCE PAINTER – 20

### **AUGUST**

NONE

### **SEPTEMBER**

NORMAND LEMOINE - 10  
REGINA LEMOINE - 10  
KATHLEEN PAINTER - 5

b. The following members are recognized for their completion of the following **courses and qualifications** in the **3<sup>RD</sup> quarter of 2006:**

### **VESSEL EXAMINER (VE)**

02-04 JERRY JENKINS  
02-01 DAN COLE  
01-03 JAMES ELSTAD

### **INSTRUCTOR**

01-01 MISTY HAFFNER

### **CREW**

02-04 JERRY JENKINS  
02-04 JEAN HOLZHEIMER  
01-01 MARCIA PICKERING  
02-04 WILLIAM FROST  
02-01 JIM RICHARDS  
03-02 RICKY SUSEE  
02-04 WILLIAM REITER

### **COXSAIN**

02-04 LOUIS JONES  
02-01 MICHAEL COFFING

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

c. The following members are recognized for their **Sustained Auxiliary Service Award** – presented for every increment of **750 volunteer hours** of cumulative Auxiliary service as entered in AuxData. - **3<sup>RD</sup> quarter of 2006:**

*TOM KANE - Second Award*

*TERRI TELKAMP – Second Award*

*SUE WHITNEY – Second Award*

*ANDY BUHLER – Second Award*

*STEWART STERLING – Fifth Award*

*SIGURD MURPHY – Sixth Award*

*TERRY STODDARD – Sixth Award*

*KATHY LYDAY – Third Award*

*RUSS LYDAY – Third Award*

*BOB MATTSON – Third Award*

*MARK POE – Seventh Award*

*CATHEY STERLING – Fourth Award*

d. The following personnel have been approved as **NEW MEMBERS** in the Coast Guard Auxiliary:

***Welcome to D17!***

**3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER**

JOSEPH SPEAR – KODIAK

JEFFREY EICHE – KODIAK

WILLIAM FROST – WHITTIER

JASON CEROVAC – KETCHIKAN

TAMARA SHELDON – SEWARD

TARY YOUNGBLOOD – HOMER

CONNIE CANNON – VALDEZ

MATHEW HOPPE – WHITTIER

“BONES” CANNON – VALDEZ

MAAIKE MYERS – KODIAK

3<sup>RD</sup> Quarter TOTAL D17 MEMBERSHIP: **394**

APPLICANTS PENDING PSI RESULTS: **5**

### 3 – NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS

#### **Auxiliary National Election Results from NACON**

National Commodore - NACO: Steve Budar (Currently NAVCO)

National Vice-Commodore - NAVCO: Nick Kerigan (current ARCO(E))

Area Rear Commodore East - ARCO(E): Peter Fernandez (DCO D7)

Area Rear Commodore West - ARCO(W): Jim Vass (Currently DCO 8CR)

Area Rear Commodore Pacific - ARCO(P): Lois Conrado (Currently DCO 11SR)

#### **District 17 Alaska Election Results:**

- District Commodore - DCO - **Michael Robinson**
- District Vice-Commodore - VCO - **Marie Scholle**
- District Rear Commodore - RCO - **Roy Stoddard**
  - Division Captain 1 - DCP1 - **Noreen Folkerts**
  - Vice-Division Captain 1 –VCP1 – **Don Brand**
    - FC 01-01 – **Maria Mattson** VFC – **Chris Conder**
    - FC 01-02 – **Ed Fry** VFC – **Doty Morrison**
    - FC 01-03 – **Mike Morris** VFC – **Ken Ash**
  - Division Captain 2 – DCP2 - **Sigurd Murphy**
  - Vice Division Captain 2 – VCP2 - **Sandy Mazen**
    - FC 02-01 – **Frances Eischens** VFC – **Dan Cole**
    - FC 02-02 – **Stan Gerhauser** VFC – **Dennis Taylor**
    - FC 02-03 – **Mike Amberg** VFC – **Mark Nymeyer**
    - FC 02-04 – **Russ Lyday** VFC – **Bill Morris**
    - FC 02-05 – **Alan Drake** VFC – **Sue Lang**
  - Division Captain 3 – DCP3 - **Shane Taylor**
  - Vice Division Captain 3 – VCP3 - **Pat Fairbanks**
    - FC 03-01 – **Mike Ostler** VFC – **Donna Ostler**
    - FC 03-02 – **Richard Liebe** VFC – **Andy Buhler**
    - FC 03-03 – **Tom Suellentrop** VFC – **Rae Strosin**
    - FC 03-04 – **Dennis Begen** VFC – **Robby Robinson**
    - FC 03-05 – **Bruce Painter** VFC – **Don Young**

### 4 – CHANGES TO AUXILIARY BOAT CREW/COXSWAIN PROGRAM

[http://www.auxnaco.org/oncourse\\_issue10.htm](http://www.auxnaco.org/oncourse_issue10.htm)

<http://cgauxsurfaceops.us/ABCTM.htm>

## **5 – Calling all Boat Crew Teams!**

Mark you calendars – on June 2<sup>nd</sup> in Alameda, CA, there will be a Pac Area SAR Competition to select the best of the best to represent the West Coast in Toronto Canada next fall for the annual Auxiliary International SAR (ISAR) competition.

In the months to come, you will be hearing more about how we will choose an Alaskan team to send to Alameda to represent us. If you are curious and interested, check out the SITREP electronic Auxiliary magazine for full coverage of the recent ISAR held in Portsmouth, VA.

## **6 - D17 Boat Crew Academies in 2007**

For the past several years, membership has requested that D17 provide more concentrated boat crew training events similar to the annual Coxswain Academy. This spring and summer, RCO Roy Stoddard, with the assistance of the OTO will be putting together a team of trainers and visiting several operational locations throughout our District to provide an academy that teaches boat handling and seamanship skills for current and new crew members. At the District Conference in February, we are offering a session of crew check-offs for the shore-based portion of Auxiliary crew certification. This one-stop workshop would give new break-in crewmembers a head start in their prerequisites for attending the crew academies. More information about the academies and Winter Conference will be distributed soon.



## **7 - FROM THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**

Lori Cook

Happy Holidays! As the end of the year approaches, I would just like to remind everyone of two important deadlines.

The first one has to do with disenrollments. Whether the disenrollment is for non-payment of dues, member request or request for retirement, all disenrollment paperwork should be received by the DirAux office by December 1 (per District Timelines), however I will continue to accept disenrollment paperwork up to **December 28<sup>th</sup>**, to be entered into the AuxData system. Flotillas will be charged 2007 dues for all members 'active' in AuxData at 00:01 on January 1.

The second is the entry of your completed hours and/or missions into AuxData. Members should ensure they have submitted their 'time' to their FSO-IS for entry. The deadline for entry of 2006 hours/missions, qual and test completions is January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 to be eligible for any awards which are presented at the February District Conference. Don't miss out!

## **8 – FY07 'C' SCHOOL SCHEDULE (as of 12/1/06)**





BMC Robert Gross

## **9 - FROM THE OPERATIONS TRAINING OFFICER (OTO)**

### **Facility Log Books:**

We suffered very few casualties last season, let alone catastrophic ones, but I'd like to extend some suggestions/recommendations/requirements for maintaining your Facility Log. Did you know that any damage over \$200 is required to have an investigation performed to determine causal factors? This is outlined in COMDTINST M5890.9 (series), Coast Guard Claims and Litigation Manual. Chapter 8 is what we need to review.

Remember, each facility log book must document your hours of use. Pages should be continuous. To those of us from the dairy counties in Central New York, that means don't rip out pages or otherwise alter the log book. Common green fixed page logbooks are still acceptable, as are the nifty log books you can purchase through the district store or the Auxiliary Center at <http://www.cgauxa.org/auxiliarycenter.php>. Loose leaf binders are no good.

Folks, there are two reasons you may never get a return on your catastrophic claim; 1) you effected the repairs prior to the investigation, and 2) there was no proper log book.

So, for tonight's homework, class, please review the Claims and Litigation Manual and also, give the AuxMan a look (Chapter 9, paragraph B.4). Thank you for your service.

Regards,  
BMC Gross, OTO



Noreen Folkerts

## **10 – FROM THE AUXILIARY PROGRAM ASSISTANT**

### **Business cards and Letterhead:**

If you go to the District 17 Website, <http://a170.uscgaux.info/> you will find a business card template for making your own personalized Auxiliary Business cards. Below is the instruction for using that Word document template. Following the same basic instructions, you can also create your own Auxiliary letterhead from the attached Word document template.



BC instruction.pdf



Aux Letterhead.doc