



Whittier Soundings

December 2004 Roy Stoddard FC, Brad Wells VFC, Cathey Sterling FSO-PB Volume XIV Issue 12

Change of Watch

Members of Whittier Flotilla: I was privileged to serve as your Flotilla Commander for 2004. I believe we accomplished great deeds last year. We trained not once, but twice with team Coast Guard's Helicopter Operations in Port Wells.

During our 4 Sarex's we had numerous members complete all their requirements to advance from member to Crew member and Crew to Coxswain.

Our Flotilla both grew and shrank in its membership. We grew to 107 members and at the end with all the 911 Personal Security Questioner paperwork, requests to dis-enroll, and/or retirements we start out 2005 with 97 members.

Here is a short list of Whittier's Member accomplishments and advancements for 2004: 3 Aux Weather; 9 Aux Search and Rescue; 1 Aux Communications; 2 Aux Seamanship; 10 Aux Patrol; 6 Aux Navigation (A & B); 7 Aux Operational; 5 Vessel Examiners; 2 Instructors; 5 Auxiliary Crew; 5 Auxiliary Coxswain; 4 UTM Crew; 1 UTM Coxswain; 9 Certificates for Years of Service of 5, 10, up to 20 years; 24 Certificates of Sustained Performance Awards (750 hrs); 4 Certificates for Superior Performance Awards; 4 Certificates for Annual Service Award for Public Education, 1 Administrative Procedure Course and 3 Trident Courses. We sponsored 25 Active duty members of the newly commissioned MSST Maritime Safety and Security Team 91111 here at the Port of Anchorage. *Whew!* And we still found time to have fun with our 4 yearly Fellowships and numerous on-the-water mini fellowships; our own Director of Auxiliary, LCDR Sue Workman, attended one. Again thank you, for all your help and dedication as members of our Whittier Flotilla. Roy Stoddard

As the out going Vice Flotilla Commander I want to say it has been an honor and a privilege to have been able to serve in that capacity.

The year went by very fast. I believe Roy Stoddard did such a good job, as Flotilla Commander, that it made my job very easy.

The year was especially rewarding because Linda and I became the owners of SOTA and got to participate in the on the water activities like never before.

When you look back on the year you can see that the flotilla accomplished a lot. All of the staff officers did outstanding jobs to make our flotilla, the Whittier Flotilla, one of the best in the Auxiliary, in my opinion.

I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve you this past year and I look forward to serving you as the 2005 Flotilla Commander and with your help (a lot of your help) we can continue to move forward.

Bradley Wells
2004 VFC



Holiday Party

Whittier Flotilla Change of Watch and Holiday Gathering by Stewart Sterling

Once again our fellowship staff put on an excellent event! The evening started out with a smorgasbord of yummy dishes brought by members of the flotilla. After getting too much to eat (then getting deserts) the Change of Watch was held. Our Flotilla Commander became the Immediate Past FC but not before he handed out some awards and thank-yous.



Winner of Auxiliarist of the year for Whittier this year.....Mark Parmelee. All that planning, coordinating and training paid off with a well-deserved nameplate on the trophy.



AND NOW....The Golden Anchor award. As most know by now this award started several years back, and is for, well--shall we say, for a golden learning experience that has happened to one of us during the year for an occurrence that they would rather forget about! This year a plaque was added to the award to display at a yet to be mounted location (most likely the Caboose) for all to keep track of the lucky winners of this award. For 2004 the lucky winner was Sig Murphy for the creative

use of duct tape repairing his boat (and NOT having to use it on the other boats around him) after departing the dock and performing bumper boats on a rather windy day.



Our FC Roy Stoddard then handed over the reigns to our NEW FC for 2005, Brad Wells. Joining him as VFC is Sig Murphy. They proceeded in appointing the 2005 Flotilla Staff Officers and handing out their manuals and appointment letters



It was then on to the gift exchange for some more excitement. A lot of passing of gifts was involved, as there were a lot of very nice gifts. Door prizes were handed out with a bunch of tunnel tickets as prizes. A raffle was involved also with a weather station and a set of West Marine binoculars being awarded!



All in all it was a very successful year and all those that attended the December 11 event had a great time. Don't miss next year's event!



Public Education

Our ABC class went so well at the Building Safety Training Room on December 18. Craig Woolard and Stewart Sterling taught the course from 8AM to 11AM by PowerPoint lecture.

Several Auxiliarists participated in the activity throughout the day. We broke for lunch and met at West Marine for a safety equipment review delivered by Russ & Kathy Lyday, Roy Stoddard, Marty Keef, Stewart, and others on hand at the store. At 2PM, there was a review by Brad Wells and test. Rae DeLey and Claude Barker helped grade the tests and Linda Wells' calligraphy work on the certificates enhanced Roy Stoddard's official signature. Terry Stoddard helped with the financial collection process. Cathey Sterling made the arrangements for the classroom availability, which was an easy location for most people to find. 32 people attended the course, and so far 27 have taken and passed the test. Others will be taking the test at a later date to complete the course. This has also led to several inquiring into taking other public education courses this year. The phone keeps ringing for me to provide information.

The website has been invaluable in giving people timely class availability. Linda Shogren and Bill Morris outdid themselves in the advertising department. The excellent graphic work and ad submission has been outstanding because most of the people who signed up for the class called within a week after the ad ran in the Anchorage Daily News, The Tundra Times, The Alaska Star, Alaska Trade Journal, and other media publications. Perhaps posting ads in places of employment can do even more. However, the classroom was filled to capacity for this ABC.

Member Training

Team Coordination Training: January 15, 2005

The course is scheduled at this time in Anchorage at the DOT conference room from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Space will be limited in this session and all participants will need to contact Mark Parmelee, potterview@gci.net, for a space in the class.

Communications – Auxiliary Specialty Course (Study Guide – COMDTPUB P16794.32B)

January 27, February 3, 10, 24, 2005

Rae DeLey Facilitator

Interested students, instructors and hosts are invited to send email to [Rae DeLey](mailto:RaeDeLey) to indicate their interest. A room at the BP Energy Center has been reserved for the course from 6 to 9pm on the listed dates.



Whittier Flotilla Web Site

<http://www.uscgaux.org/~1700204/>



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

America's Volunteer Lifesaverssm



A Photo Snapshot of Whittier Flotilla
2004