



Whittier Soundings



Whittier Flotilla 02-04, District 17, Alaska

December 2005 Brad Wells FC, Sig Murphy VFC, Cathey Sterling FSO-PB Volume XV Issue 12

2005 Change of Watch and Holiday Fellowship

By Cathey Sterling

The Flotilla Change of Watch and Holiday Fellowship were held December 10. We started the evening with some mingling and setting up for our dinner. We had a delicious potluck holiday dinner with several people bringing many of their favorite dishes.



After the dinner we held our Change of Watch. Brad Wells, our outgoing FC gave a short speech thanking the membership for giving him so much support and for a wonderful year. Sig presented Brad with a beautiful hand made clock from the flotilla.



Brad then gave certificates of appreciation to the outgoing Flotilla Staff Officers.



Roy Stoddard, our Division Captain, gave the oath of office for our new Flotilla Commander, Sig Murphy and Vice Flotilla Commander, Russ Lyday.



After the swearing in, Sig invited all the incoming Flotilla Staff Officers to take their oath of office. After all FSO's were official, Russ gave each a Staff Officer Handbook.



Sig then took the opportunity to pass on the Golden Anchor Award. Sig told us of the significance of the golden anchor award in the Navy but made it clear it holds a decidedly different meaning in the flotilla.



Jim and Yvonne Chase were certainly surprised to be the golden anchor recipients.

During a small break before the gift exchange, Mark Parmelee gave a speech and presented the Auxiliarist(s) of the Year award.



This year, Stewart and I were the recipients of the award. I could not have been more stunned or surprised. What an honor to receive this award. We find ourselves among the distinguished Whittier Flotilla members that have previously received the award.

Jim Chase was our master of ceremonies for the gift exchange.



The rules were clearly defined, with written copies distributed on the dining tables. With 37 participants it became interesting as certain gifts were sought multiple times.



Jim made sure all members followed the rules, kept the gifts visible on the tables and managed to get the event done within time. Mark Poe provided a painting he did of members boats rafted after a SAREX.



The painting was one of the more sought after gifts. In the final moments, Jules, with the coveted number 1, had the final choice.

Thanks to all for the preparation and great fellowship.



Public Education

For instructors or any members wanting to become instructors we have lots of Public Education opportunities.

Advanced Coastal Navigation

January 3 through February 21

Boating Skills and Seamanship

March 9 through April 27

ABC (Americas Boating Course)

April 22 in Whittier

ABC (Americas Boating Course)

May 13 in Anchorage

Boating Skills and Seamanship

September 12 through October 31

Contact: Charlotte Jones 332-4441



Member Training

A variety of Member Training classes for 2006 have been scheduled.

Navigation “Rules of the Road” is offered January 13, 14 & 15. This class is taught by Dennis Thaute and is a must for all Coxswains needing to pass Navigation. Rules. The Auxiliary Communications is offered February 11.

Land based training for crew and coxswain is offered March 18. Auxiliary Seamanship is offered April 15. More classes are scheduled.

Contact Rae De Ley 337-6706



Emergency Preparedness

Most Alaskans tend to be more prepared for emergency situations than other parts of the country.

But with the recent events of the past few months, it is a good time to reevaluate our personal preparedness.

Working in various missions in the Auxiliary, we learn the need for communications and plan development and implementation.

There are several agencies with disaster preparedness plans outlining the supplies, communications and preparations we should have in place prior to an emergency.

Please review your own personal preparedness plan so you are able to take care of yourself, your family and will be able to assist the Auxiliary in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Winter Safety

With the current freeze, snow, thaw, freeze cycle, be alert for slipping hazards. Take all precautions to prevent falls and avoid auto accidents due to ice.



No Current HF Comms

All Auxiliarists should be aware that the Memorandum of Understanding under which HF communications has operated since 1999 has been cancelled. Thus Auxiliarists may no longer use any of the frequencies assigned under that agreement and call signs that were assigned to Auxiliary HF stations have been rescinded and may no longer be used.

[Posted 12 December 2005. Source David A Elliot, DC-Od]

From the US Coast Guard Auxiliary Web Site News



FAREWELL

It is with great sadness that we report that Mike Barbarick died Saturday, December 10. We will miss him and offer our sincere condolences to his wife Deanna.

Mike joined the Auxiliary on December 10, 1999. He served as Staff Officer for Communications and conducted radio classes for the membership.

His generous spirit, fine sense of humor and unfailingly positive attitude won him many friends.

Mike regularly attended Flotilla meetings where his good judgment and sound advice were always appreciated and relied upon.

He and Deanna enjoyed boating in Prince William Sound; first aboard the Andrea and, later, the Sanctuary. This past summer was a particularly enjoyable one for them both.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Deanna and their family.

COAST GUARD AUXILIARY



17th District

<http://www.uscgaux.org/~170/>

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