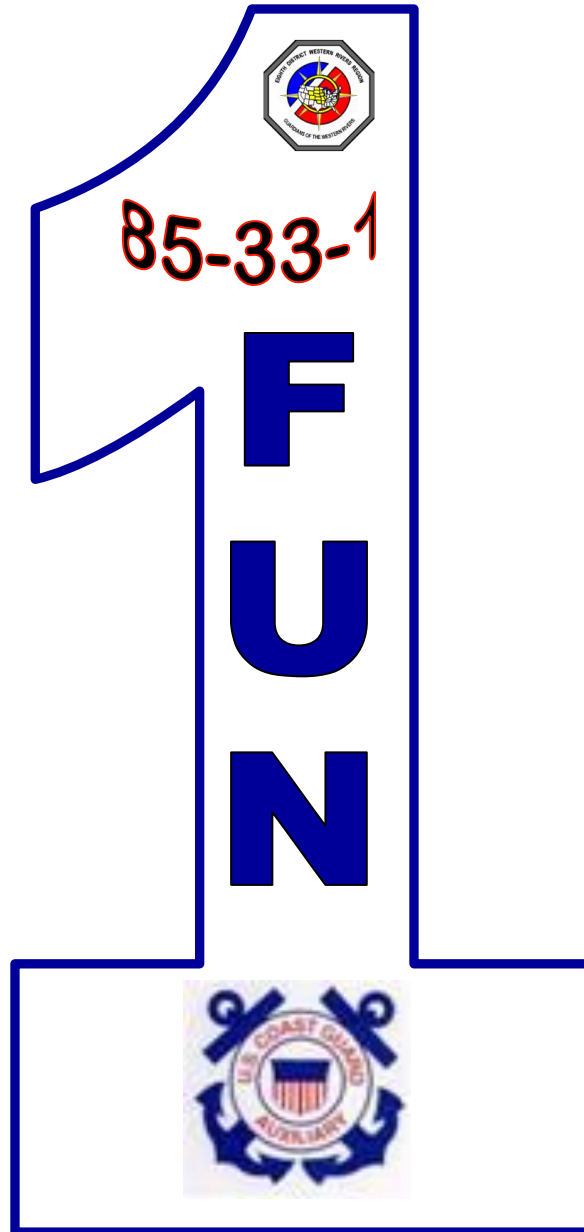


“The Fun One”

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 1 JANUARY 2014



**Flotilla 33-1
40 & 8 Club
3113 S. 70 St.
Omaha, Nebraska**

FLOTILLA 33-1 OFFICERS

Flotilla Commander (FC) - Jim Westcott
Vice Flotilla Commander (VFC) -
Barb Westcott
Immediate Past Flotilla Commander (IPFC) -
Barclay Stebbins
Secretary (FSO-SR) - Barclay Stebbins
Treasurer (FSO-FN) - George McNary
Communications (FSO-CM) - James Miller
Communication Services (FSO-CS) -
Barb Westcott
Information Services (FSO-IS) -
Barclay Stebbins
Materials (FSO-MA) - Bernie McNary
Marine Safety (FSO-MS) - Tom Spieker
Aids to Navigation (FSO-NS) - Tom Spieker
Member Training (FSO-MT) - Ralph Tomlinson
Operations (FSO-OP) - Warren Koehler
Public Affairs (FSO-PA) - Dan Groenendyk
Publications (FSO-PB) - Barb Westcott
Public Education (FSO-PE) - Richard Goble
Human Resources (FSO-HR) - Richard Goble
Program Visitor (FSO-PV) - Dan Groenendyk
Vessel Examiner (FSO-VE) - Dan Groenendyk

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Guard Auxiliary 8th Western
Rivers Region. Opinions
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necessarily those of the
U.S. Coast Guard or U.S. Coast
Guard Auxiliary.

**On Facebook we are found at:
USCGAUX Flotilla 85-33-01**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

| | |
|--------|--|
| 01 Jan | Last day of the 12 Days of Christmas for the Gasconade |
| 11 Jan | Division 33 Meeting, Training and Change of Watch Dinner Fremont, NE |
| 20 Jan | Flotilla Meeting |

**See the calendars and check our website
for possible patrol dates and other changes**

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Want to see more pictures?
Please remember to check out the website at:
[http://wow.uscgaux.info/WOW_signin.ph?](http://wow.uscgaux.info/WOW_signin.ph?unit=..)
[unit=..](http://wow.uscgaux.info/WOW_signin.ph?unit=..)



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FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



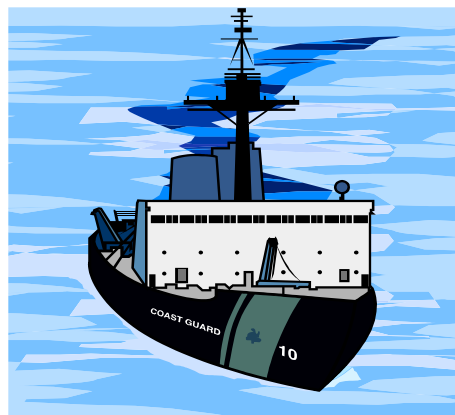
JANUARY 2014

As I sit here at my desk, the temperature outside is a balmy -4F. The winter solstice has come and gone and the vernal equinox is rapidly approaching (I hope). Now is the time to break out the Auxiliary manuals for the various qualifications an individual is holding and hone those skills that can be done dockside. If you have a facility check out the items you have on board that, while usable, may be marginal and need to be replaced.

Ideally the next boating season will be kinder to our area(s) allowing more time on the water so as to be a visible reminder of boating safety and available to our fellow boaters in need.

Stay safe!

Jim Westcott FC
8WR 33-1



TO: All Members of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Coast Guard family

It's the most wonderful time of the year. It was 50 years ago in 1963, that two men wrote a song that is still listened to by many of us at this time of year. "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" was originally written by Edward Pola and George Wyle and was popularized by Andy Williams as a Christmas song. However, the title and the thoughts send a message much more ecumenical than just one holiday. The message resonates with all of us who have celebrations whether divine or secular in nature at this time of year.

There are a large number of celebrations that take place during this season. Some celebrate people, some celebrate significant events, and some celebrate divine entities. The giving of gifts is part of some celebrations while giving of service is included in others. Some celebrations have been traditional for thousands of years and some for less than half a century.

The universal message that resonates through all of these seasonal celebrations is the sentiment of peace and good will. None of them celebrate violence or hatred. That is what makes this truly the most wonderful time of the year.

At this time Wanda and I would like to wish all Auxiliarists and other members of the Coast Guard family Happy Holidays. In so doing we refer to all holidays celebrated during this - the most wonderful time of the year. We recognize the diversity that enriches us all and brings us closer together as we celebrate according to the customs with which we are most comfortable.

Please be safe during the holiday season. We look forward to an exciting year in 2014, which will be the Coast Guard Auxiliary's 75th year as the best trained most valued maritime volunteer organization in the world!

Respectfully,

Tom Mallison
National Commodore



Editors Note:

The following was attached to an email that the instructors received from Richard Goble, SO-PE. The word document is attached, but the PowerPoint is not.

----- Original Message -----

From: Maresh, Daniel

Subject: Educational Excellence

SO-PEs,

Eighth Western Rivers has been selected as one of three districts to beta test the E-Directorate's new Educational Excellence program. This program is designed to improve the capabilities of our instructor cadre nationally by giving them a means of assessing their effectiveness in the classroom and receiving an acknowledgement for reaching a higher standard.

I have enclosed a couple documents that outline the details of the program. The power point document is the presentation on the Educational Excellence program endorsed by NEXCOM and presented at NACON. The word document is a summary of the process and the evaluation form.

On the Education Directorate's web page, all copies of WayPoints can be found. These have been sent to all district leaders and all DSO-PE officers since January for distribution to the flotilla level including all instructors. The WayPoints documents provide some valuable tips on improving instructor competence based on proven techniques.

This is the first step and it is entirely voluntary. Eventually it will become part of an on-going qualification process. Not everyone will embrace this but we all know instructors who need to improve their delivery in a public safe boating session.

It is our hope the SO-PE group can champion this process and give us valuable feedback as it develops. Please assure this reaches all of the instructors in your respective divisions and feel free to contact Wilson Allsbrook or me with any questions.

I offer my sincere appreciation to those of you who are willing to mentor and instructor through this improvement process.

COMO Dan Maresh

Continued on the next page

Educational Excellence Program

Purpose - It is critical that Coast Guard Auxiliary instructors demonstrate a high level of professionalism. To that end they should be coached and challenged to continuously improve their skills. The Educational Excellence Program is designed to challenge our instructors to improve their efficiency in instructional delivery skills and to provide appropriate acknowledgement of such performance improvements. The program is designed to assist our 5400 instructors to improve their presentation skills. This achievement will be recognized for a period of two years, after which the instructor may choose to go through the process again.

Relevance to Strategic Plan – The RBS mission is identified as a key mission in both the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary Strategic Plans. Consistent with these plans, the Education Directorate and the Training Directorate of the Coast Guard Auxiliary have developed a Way Forward for Education that involves the improvement of present course offerings, development of online courses, and the creation of a Professional Development Program for our instructor cadre. The Educational Excellence Program is part of the Professional Development Program.

Recognition – The instructor who completes this process after (insert date) will be authorized to attach an “E” to the Instructor ribbon. A certificate will also be issued. Instructors are encouraged to repeat this process every two years.

Process

- a) The primary evaluation tool for this program is a video recording of the instructor teaching a public education or member training session. The session must be between 30 and 60 minutes in length and can be recorded in any convenient format. The focus is not on creating a world-class film, but rather simply recording the lesson for later review by the instructor.

There are many relevant and important skills for instructors, including (but not limited to) front end analysis, course development, text and examination writing, crafting PowerPoint presentations, presenting course materials, and analysis of examination results. All of these are potentially relevant in terms of instructor development and certification. The focus of the EE program is solely on the improvement of the presentation skills of our existing instructor cadre. This is because our PE instructors will be presenting material developed by others.

Continued on the next page

- b) Instructors are encouraged to review the recent issues of WAYPOINTS, to prepare for this process.
- c) The focus of the video recording shall be on the instructor as opposed to broad shots of the students. This also simplifies the video recording process.
- d) The video recording must then be self-critiqued by the instructor, identifying strengths, effective strategies, and areas for growth and improvement. A check sheet is attached and shall guide the instructor's self-assessment. Relevant guidance on effective presentation techniques is provided in various issues of WAYPOINTS.
- e) The video and self-critique must be submitted to a designated Education Examiner for review and feedback. Helpful and constructive feedback and recommendations for improvement must be provided to the instructor.
- f) A second video must then be made and re-submitted for review. A conference shall be held between the Education Examiner and the Instructor to provide additional feedback and recommendations.
- g) Finally, the Education Examiner will attend a class (PE or MT) presented by the Instructor and score the presentation. A total score for the 10 attributes (see below) of 45 or more is required to qualify for this award.
- h) Once this process is complete, the attached form shall be completed and submitted to the DIRAUX.

Education Examiners

Education Examiners will be designated by DIRAUX upon the review and recommendation of the DCO. This can be a district specified process that involves any combination of the DSO-PE, DSO-MT and the OTO. It will be critical to have a sufficient number of Educational Examiners available to provide local access with minimal travel demands.

Educational Examiners should be:

- Experienced instructors who are current in the IT qualification
- Strong presenters who model quality instruction
- Positive role models who possess strong interpersonal skills

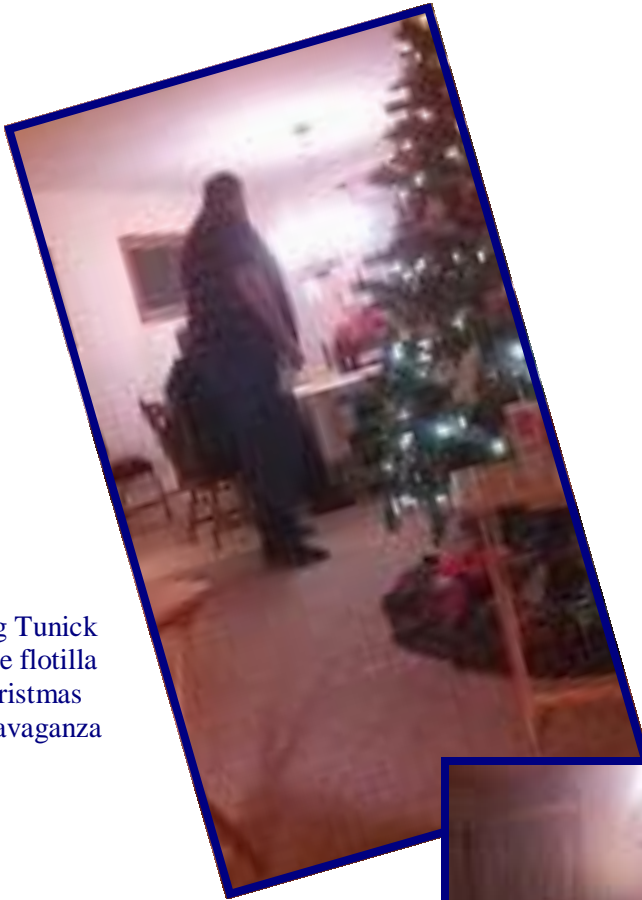
Additional Notes

Exemplary videos should be shared with the National Education and National Training Directorates as examples of best practices.

References

The attached references along with the recent issues of WayPoints will serve as quality guidance for Auilixarists as they work through this program.

Ideally the process should be standardized across all Districts. This flexibility is provided to avoid unduly burdensome requirements for geographically dispersed districts.



Greg Tunick
at the flotilla
Christmas
Extravaganza

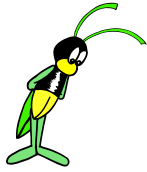


The Beautiful Christmas Tree
at the McNary Household



Warren & Deb Koehler
enjoying the
Fabulous Feast

Photos by Barb Westcott



BY THE INFORMATION BUG

DECEMBER Notes

As this section is not just for boating, here is some information from an internet article:

Information for this fact sheet was provided by:

<http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

Staying Safe When Outdoors

Many of us are entering the coldest time of the year. Cold temperatures make your body lose heat faster than it can be produced. This condition results in abnormally low body temperature, also known as hypothermia.

Hypothermia affects the brain, leaving the victim unable to think clearly or move well. This inability makes hypothermia particularly dangerous because a person may not know it's happening. Victims of hypothermia are often:

- Seniors with inadequate heating, food or clothing;
- Babies sleeping in cold rooms; and
- People who remain outdoors for long periods like the homeless, hikers or hunters.

In extreme cold, make outside trips as brief as possible to protect your health and safety. However, if you must be outside take a few special precautions:

- Dress warmly and in layers. A waterproof jacket will help you stay warm and dry if it starts to snow;
- Work slowly if you have to do heavy outdoor chores; and
- Notify friends and family where you will be before you go hiking, camping or skiing.

Do not ignore shivering. It is an important first sign that the body is losing heat. Learn the other signs of hypothermia and how to care for someone who may be suffering from it before your next outdoor winter excursion.



January 2014

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------|----|----|---|
| | |  | 1 Happy New Year | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Division Meeting, Training & Change of Watch |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 1930 hrs Flotilla 33-1 Meeting | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Life Jacket Fitting at Cabela's from 1300 to 1500 |
| 26 Life Jacket Fitting at Cabela's from 1300 to 1500 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

February 2014



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|----|--|----|----|----|---|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 1930 hrs Flotilla 33-1 Meeting | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 9th Biennial Conservation Education Conference @ Mahoney St Park | |