

“The Fun One”

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 03, MARCH 2020



**The Winner of
The 8th Western Rivers Region
2017
Best Flotilla Newsletter Award**

**WE ARE
THE
1
85 - 33 - 01
FUN**



**Flotilla 33-1
2500 Bellevue Medical Center Drive
Bellevue, NE 68123
Conference Room D**



FLOTILLA 33-1 OFFICERS

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

Send articles for "The Fun One" to:
Barb Westcott
Fax: 402-397-2306
E-mail: kc0h1b@cox.net

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U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
8th Western Rivers Region.
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Guard Auxiliary.

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

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

16 March	Flotilla Meeting
17 March	St. Patrick's Day
26 March	Storm Spotter Training at the Bellevue Fire training Center
2-5 April	Spring District Training in North Kansas City, MO.
02 May	Division Meeting and Awards Dinner

**See the calendars and check our website
for possible date changes, RBS dates and
other operations.**

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**Please remember to check out the
website at:**

**[http://wow.uscgaux.info/
WOW_signin.php?unit=](http://wow.uscgaux.info/WOW_signin.php?unit=)**



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FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



Commander's Note March 2020

Well, here we are again. It's March. Let us NOT forget what happen last March, and as the motto says (if I may paraphrase) let's get ready, because Mother Nature has shown that she can be cruel, so be prepared.

I would like to thank all that attended the Divisions Change of Watch Ceremony held at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Downtown Omaha. The food was great, the fellowship was even greater and the weather was fantastic. If you weren't there then you missed a good time.

With the coming of spring, followed by summer (aka boating season) now is the time to dust off the "go bags" get out your gear and make sure that it is ready to be used.

Well, the editor wanted me to say a few words, so here they are:

Few Words

Semper Paratus
Jim Westcott, FC



THE DIVERSITY MINUTE

Barb Westcott, VCDR FSO-CS/PB

The following information can be found at :
<http://cgaux.org/leadership/diversity.php>

National Commodore's Diversity Policy

“Dependability, Integrity, Diversity”

Diversity is about our commitment to embrace men and women of all racial, cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds as full, equal, and vital members of our organization.

For more information on how the United States is moving forward on LGTBA issues, visit the White Houses page for the "[It Gets Better](#)" reform act.

National Commodore's Official Policy

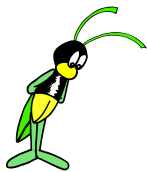
It is the policy of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary to ensure that all citizens, regardless of *race, gender, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, religion, or physical or mental disability* have an equal opportunity to become a volunteer of this organization. It is after all, part of our mission to become the volunteer organization of choice.

As the National Commodore, I will personally lead the diversity initiatives and challenge all who serve to do the same through leadership, mentorship, service, and example. As someone committed to diversity, I understand that providing training is one of the strategies that helps build an inclusive environment, which is crucial to attracting and retaining top talent, building member engagement, and fostering creativity and innovation. Our Strategic Plan for Managing Diversity will guide us in our efforts towards accomplishing this goal.

Diversity of thoughts, ideas, and competencies of our people, keeps the Auxiliary strong and empowers us to mission readiness and excellence.

Diversity is an imperative to the Auxiliary; it can increase morale and impact our success. In essence every member is responsible for fostering an inclusive team atmosphere and being a contributing part of Team Coast Guard.

The Auxiliary is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive environment, a journey guided by the deeply held values of Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty, as America's Guardians, we understand that diversity is not a problem to be solved, but is an asset to be developed.



BY THE INFORMATION BUG

By Barb Westcott, VCDR

MARCH NOTES

Information for this article may be found at:

<https://www.minotdailynews.com/news/local-news/2020/01/u-s-army-corps-of-engineers-anticipates-high-runoff-season-for-missouri-river/>

Minot Daily News

February 24, 2020

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers anticipates high runoff season for Missouri River

It is much too early in the winter season to say with any certainty how much snow or rain will fall between now and the annual spring runoff into the Missouri River system, but the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says they are preparing for a high runoff season.

In fact, says the Corps, the 2020 runoff season already has the potential to be a top-10 historical event in terms of volume of water. The Corps issued that statement Tuesday during a briefing of interested parties all along the Missouri River system. Much of the concern over a potentially high runoff season centers on the soil conditions.

“Given the very wet soil conditions and stream conditions, we expect March and April runoff to be two-times more than average,” said Kevin Grode, Corps of Engineers in Omaha, Nebraska.

The early line, according to the Corps, is that 2020 runoff could be the ninth-highest in 122 years of record keeping. That amount follows the second-highest runoff ever recorded that occurred in 2019. Each runoff season is different, however. To date it appears Lake Sakakawea in North Dakota will be spared the worst of the runoff.

Continued on the next page

“For May, June and July it looks like slightly above average runoff for Garrison,” said Grode. “Lake Oahe through Sioux City is expected to be well above average runoff in the summer months.”

The Corps stresses that the winter snow accumulation season, primarily in the mountains of western Montana, has not yet reached the half-way point.

“It’s still early and much will change,” said Kevin Low, National Weather Service hydrologist. “Right now the mountain snowmelt looks near average but soil conditions are very saturated.”

Low noted that flooding along the James River has reached 300 consecutive days, breaking records for longevity. Given the soil moisture content and existing snowpack in the James River drainage there appears to be little relief in the coming months.

“Our first official Flood Outlook will be issued February 13,” said Low. “It will be a quantification of flood potential for this spring.”

John Remus, Missouri Basin Water Management Division chief, said ice on rivers limits the ability to evacuate water during the winter.

“All of our flood control storage may not get evacuated,” said Remus.

Remus noted that the Bismarck area experienced high water issues as the combination of warm weather and releases from Garrison Dam led to a break up of ice that formed ice jams. To help alleviate the situation the amount of water being released through the Garrison Dam power plant was reduced.

Fort Peck Reservoir in Montana, Lake Sakakawea in North Dakota and Lake Oahe in both South and North Dakota have designated flood control zones to capture spring runoff. Although the bottom of those zones might not be reached, as referenced by Remus, the difference is expected to be only a few inches.



2020 Change of Watch

Pictures by Bonnie Stebbins




MKC Grady received a plaque from the 8th Western Rivers District honoring the USCG Cutter Gasconade. The plaque was presented by Brandon Butters, DCR



Patrick Hickey, DCapt-W looking on as Jim Westcott, FC Omaha Ne Flotilla pass the lantern to Jim Wolfe, VFC during the Lantern Ceremony at the Great Plains Division Change of Watch

March 2020



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

April 2020



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