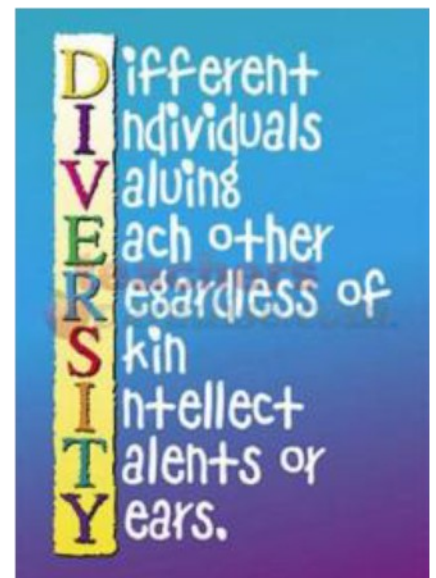


# “The Fun One”

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 12, DECEMBER 2020



**The 2017 Winner of  
the 8th Western Rivers Region  
"Best Flotilia Newsletter" Award**



**Omaha Ne Flotilla  
2500 Bellevue Medical Center Drive  
Bellevue, NE 68123  
Conference Room D**

## FLOTILLA 33-1 OFFICERS

Flotilla Commander (FC) - Jim Westcott  
Vice Flotilla Commander (VFC) - James 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) - James Wolfe  
Program Visitor (FSO-PV) - James Wolfe  
Secretary (FSO-SR) - Barb Westcott  
Vessel Examiner (FSO-VE) - James Wolfe

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Guard Auxiliary.

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

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

21 December	Flotilla Meeting
25 December	Christmas
31 December	New Year's Eve
01 January	New Year's Day
18 January	Flotilla Meeting
23 January	Division Meeting - via ZOOM

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

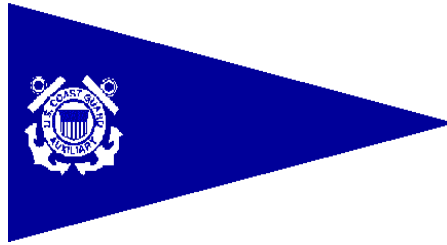
[http://www.uscgaux.info/WOW\\_signin.php?unit=](http://www.uscgaux.info/WOW_signin.php?unit=)



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# FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



## *Commander's Notes* *December 2020*

Our traditional 12 days of Christmas with the Gasconade is upon us. The sign-up sheet has been sent out to all members of our flotilla, as well as all the other FCs in our AOR. You don't have to be an award-winning chef to make a great impression on these kids (sorry – young men). Cookies (home-made are the best), a chicken and rice casserole, fried chicken from “the Colonel,” pizza, whatever, they do look forward to the interaction and fellowship. As the future of the Cutter Gasconade is up in the air right now, let's make this year a memorable one for the (what appears to be in my eyes) very young Coast Guardsmen stationed here.

Everyone stay safe. It seems that Mother Nature is not done with this “COVID” thing that is going around. This is an immensely powerful virus for some of us. If you are over 65 years of age, have underlying medical issues like diabetes, heart disease, overweight, are on blood thinners etc., it will wear down your immune system to the point that something like pneumonia, normally curable for most of us, could do you in. Wear the darn masks when you are around and about or among others. Wash your hands often, use hand sanitizer and stay 72 inches away from others when at all possible. If you cannot stay 72 inches apart from others, try to at least stay six feet apart.

Finally, remember the Official motto of the Coast guard, Semper Paratus (Always Prepared) as well as the unofficial motto of the Auxiliary of “Semper Gumby” (Always Flexible). Should the “Gold Side” be moved from the moorings to a further southern location, it is conceivable that our services will be needed next summer (or when ever) should the relocation take place. Keep your go kit available, keep up on your qualifications, and should the ‘call’ come, respond to it, even if it is a negative response stating that you are not available. St. Louis needs to know that we are - -

Semper Paratus  
Jim Westcott



# THE DIVERSITY MINUTE

Barb Westcott, VCDR FSO-CS/PB

This information can be found at the following website:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/robashghar/2019/03/17/diversity-2-0-its-new-commandments-begin-with-kindness/?sh=7646234b27b5>

The growing efforts to promote diversity in American institutions and workplaces are something to celebrate—but they’re also leading to unexpected headaches.

In most things, a little success inspires a little enthusiasm. But in the case of diversity, a little success has created a lot of contempt—and some of the foremost champions of diversity at times seem overwhelmed by the opening of the Pandoran box.

Perhaps the image that best captures this is that of NYU students angrily accosting Chelsea Clinton for supposedly spreading hatred at a moment when she sought to pray for victims of hatred in New Zealand. It was a remarkable moment, prompting bigoted reactionaries to express sympathy for someone they normally despise, while simultaneously demoralizing those who care about diversity and integration.

Many well-meaning American leaders assumed that the battle for diversity would soon be won once they began to bring underrepresented groups more intentionally into companies, schools and governments. The mantra was “inclusiveness,” the idea that as we added more colors to the rainbow, our organizations and our society would be more harmonious—and more effective!—than ever.

They hadn’t counted on the degree to which many groups that had been on the outside would say that being included wasn’t enough. What they really demanded was “equity,” sometimes involving a thorough dismantling of old systems and dramatic restitution for past wrongs.

What we have now are two camps: A gentle but perhaps naïve one with a spirit of inclusiveness and the desire to embrace many kinds of people; and a more zealous and aggressive one, intent on breaking chains and cracking the backs of society’s oppressors and power groups. The two camps are increasingly fighting against each other rather than for their shared causes. And those outside both camps feel even more inclined not to get involved.

Things could get worse before they get better. But perhaps we can create the conditions for Diversity 2.0 with some commandments that place basic human grace above perpetual outrage.

Continued on the next page

### **1. Seek integration and equity, while still being kind**

The easiest thing in the world is to grow hateful in opposing others' hate. It's a wonderful catharsis to yell at politicians at prayer vigils for not doing enough to promote harmony, or to break eggs on the heads of hateful people (who do frankly seem to beg for eggs on their head), or to publicly humiliate a variety of people who disagree with our notions of how to affirm human dignity.

But the fighting replicates the worst in the larger human condition and perpetuates division. We do better to avoid the uncompromisingly harsh tone that sounds like sweet justice to our own ears but sounds like nails on the chalkboard to those less invested in our point of view. As Gandhi said, "In a gentle way, you can shake the world."

### **2. Remember that tomorrow we'll be in the shoes of those we today accuse**

Show a little grace now, when you point a finger at others for failure or hypocrisy or selling out.

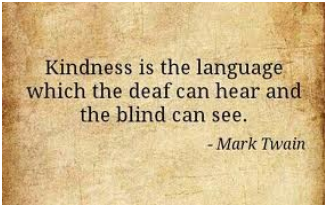
At some point, we *will* be in their shoes. While we're accusing others of compromising with an evil system, someone will come along and accuse us of compromising more than they'd be willing to. Or someone will accuse us of ignoring or enabling greater evils say, to the environment or animal rights or another issue that we're not even aware of today because of the blind spots that we all have as humans.

We may also find over time that those we're tempted to despise are quietly fighting hard battles we know nothing about. Those people are often torn, facing difficult choices and feeling a need to make compromises in order to be faithful to themselves or to their families or communities.

The knowledge that we will inevitably be accused of what we accuse others of is the taproot of empathy.

### **3. Don't devour your allies**

One courageous religious leader, a person of color, risked his career and reputation to fight for the rights of marginalized LGBTQ persons in his congregation. Later he'd find himself dismissed as too privileged to deserve a voice in a fight for justice that he himself did so much to advance. This sort of over-correction seems to create, needlessly, new cycles of misery and cynicism.



Kindness is the language  
which the deaf can hear and  
the blind can see.

- Mark Twain

Continued on the next page

There is, too, the dizzying [new battle](#) between those who differently prioritize the push against Islamophobia and the push against anti-Semitism, which has been brought into view by this weekend's Chelsea Clinton debacle and the related controversy about the words of Rep. Ilhan Omar. And there are escalating battles between competing marginalized [groups](#) that should in theory be allies, such as radical feminists and transgendered people.

At times, this tendency allows the diversity movement to be hijacked by those who prefer aggressive tribalism to true diversity.

#### **4. Be willing to learn from even those against whom you have a grievance**

It's been *de rigueur* for decades to pour scorn on the Western canon and those dead white European men whose peoples colonized and humiliated our ancestors and their lands. But let's not make ourselves poorer for our spite or our sense of justice.

Shakespeare and Plato enjoyed advantages because of their place in the social system—but they don't have voices that have echoed across generations merely due to privilege. They do so because they had something to say that withstood the test of time, and this lifted their voices above millions of other voices in their day and our own day. That gives their insights more enduring value today than some are willing to admit.

#### **5. Appreciate the power of unity**

Don't reject "[e pluribus unum](#)" as a failed slogan, even if it was created by wealthy white males. Many of the people who are reluctant to be allies in diversity efforts tend to fear that we lack their commitment to grand traditions that they cherish, traditions that are more essential than we often realize in binding a nation. We can win them over—or at least keep them from voting for our most reactionary politicians as an act of defiance against us—by paying a little tribute to those values.

That also means it's not always helpful to toss around terms like "white privilege," "whitesplaining," "white fragility" or, um, "[caucausity](#)" (used by one of Chelsea Clinton's antagonists to mock her supposed audacity in seeking to join them in the quest for peace). Such in-group jargon often reveals the contempt that MLK cautioned against, drives some outside observers farther away, and can flat-out radicalize other ones.

Diversity 2.0, in short, needn't diminish any of the urgency of the mission. But it can add a sense of humility and grace, and just as importantly, a sense of humor, to the long and arduous work involved.







# THE INFORMATION BUG

By Barb Westcott, VCDR, FSO-CS/PB

## *NOVEMBER NOTES*

This information can be found at the following website:

[Welcome to the Auxiliary Leadership Development Program Web Site \(uscgaux.info\)](http://uscgaux.info)



The Auxiliary Leadership Development Program (ALDP) facilitates leadership development beginning at the flotilla level. The ALDP emphasizes the interaction of all three components of the Coast Guard Leadership Development framework: (1) 28 CG Leadership Competencies, (2) levels of responsibility and expertise, and (3) methods for gaining and demonstrating competency. The ALDP provides methods for current and future leaders to gain and demonstrate competency inside and outside of the walls of a classroom. While administering the flotilla level program, Flotilla Commanders will encourage and foster leadership by promoting a culture receptive to implementing proven leadership principles and practices.

In contrast to traditional techniques for leadership development, the Coast Guard Auxiliary designed the ALDP to meet the need for a more flexible approach. While leadership development starts at the flotilla level with the Flotilla Commander and the flotilla leadership team it continues at the Division level all the way through the District leadership. In fact, if a member's Auxiliary career extends beyond the District Commodore level leadership development continues on a broader scale.

The ALDP is a leader driven program; therefore it is imperative that elected and appointed Auxiliary leaders make it a priority. The success of the program depends on the active participation of all Auxiliary leaders. The ALDP should be able to capture a meaningful picture of the Auxiliary leadership environment and provide the tools to actively improve that environment.

Continued on the next page

The following courses should be taken by each member, depending on his/her level of desired personal achievement within the Auxiliary. You may the competencies listed below at the following website:

<http://wow.uscgaux.info/content.php?unit=AUX60&category=leadership-competencies>

### **Leader Competencies**

Member Certifications Completed

Level 1 Leader - Member

Level 2 Leader - Flotilla

Level 3 Leader - Division

Level 4 Leader - District

Level 5 Leader - COMO





# December 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Omaha NE Flotilla Meeting	22	23	24	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26
27	28	29	30	31 <i>happy new year</i>		

# January 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Omaha NE Flotilla Meeting	19	20	21	22	23 Division 33 Meeting & Training Via ZOOM
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## Thanksgiving and the 12 Days of Christmas

DATE	NAME	FLOTILLA #	EMAIL
26-Nov-20	Jim & Barb Westcott	085-33-01	<a href="mailto:kc0h1b@cox.net">kc0h1b@cox.net</a>
20-Dec-20	Vern Jansky & Mason Youngman	085-33-02	<a href="mailto:viansky@inebraska.com">viansky@inebraska.com</a> & <a href="mailto:zexplorer@cox.net">zexplorer@cox.net</a>
21-Dec-20			
22-Dec-20			-
23-Dec-20	Connie Walters	085-33-02	<a href="mailto:conniewa@inebraska.com">conniewa@inebraska.com</a>
24-Dec-20			
25-Dec-20	Travis McKenzie	085-33-01	<a href="mailto:tmckenzie93@yahoo.com">tmckenzie93@yahoo.com</a>
26-Dec-20			-
27-Dec-20	Dan & Resi Smith	085-33-03	<a href="mailto:navydans@msn.com">navydans@msn.com</a>
28-Dec-20			-
29-Dec-20			-
30-Dec-20			-
31-Dec-20	Dan & Resi Smith	085-33-03	<a href="mailto:navydans@msn.com">navydans@msn.com</a>
1-Jan-21			
2-Jan-21			
3-Jan-21			