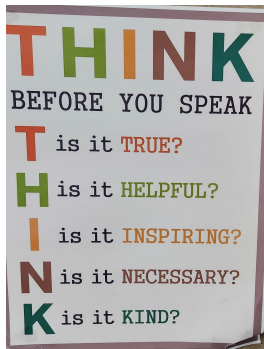


# “The Fun One”

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 9, SEPTEMBER 2023



*THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
OF FLOTILLA #1,  
OF THE  
GREAT PLAINS DIVISION  
IN THE  
8TH WESTERN RIVERS REGION*



**Omaha NE Flotilla  
TANGIER SHRINE CENTER  
2823 S. 84th St.  
Omaha, NE 68124**



## FLOTILLA 33-1 OFFICERS

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

Send articles for "The Fun One" to:  
Barb Westcott  
E-mail: [kc0h1b@cox.net](mailto:kc0h1b@cox.net)

Published by and for members of  
Omaha NE Flotilla  
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
8th Western Rivers Region.  
Opinions expressed herein are not  
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

Sept 4	Labor Day
Sept 15-17	BIZTRAIN - St. Louis
Sept 18	Flotilla Meeting
Sept 30	Division Elections & Dinner
Oct 16	Flotilla Election Meeting
Oct 31	Halloween

**8WR DISTRICT MONTHLY TRAINING LOOK AT THE DISTRICT CALENDAR ON THE WOW WEBSITE TO FIND THE DATES**  
See the calendars and check our website for possible date changes, RBS dates and other operations.

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

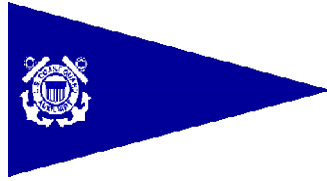
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**Please remember to check out the website at:**

<http://a0853301.wow.uscgauaux.info>

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## FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S MONTHLY LETTER



***SEPTEMBER 2023***

On the morning of 11 September 2001, living up to our motto of Semper Paratus, Coast Guard personnel immediately sprang into action to save lives and ensure security for survivors of the events of that day. In support of Operation Noble Eagle, thousands of Coast Guard men and women Reservists and Auxiliarists were mobilized to support the largest homeland defense and port security operations since World War II, ensuring the safety of maritime commerce, continued operation of port facilities, search and rescue and other vital operations.

We still support many of those missions to this day. We work, train, and teach to be vigilant in our operations and help maintain safety in all of our functions.

We have had several PA events, the Bellevue Farmers Market, the Safety Day at Metro Community College, and Dundee Days neighborhood event. The Metro and Dundee days were new events that we have never done before, These were very successful out-reach efforts at new venues. Although those were very steamy hot days, a huge BZ to the members from Flotilla 1 and 3 for coming out to help support those events. We continue to get vessel safety checks done as well as Program Visits. Members continue to work on our AUP outreach, as well as Jim Wolfe and Cannon Kinchelow working on their respective CG Academy and CG Recruiting programs. The Flotilla has recruited another new member, Rochelle Nolte from Sioux City, SD and her new member paperwork is progressing along.

We are finally all qualified and are ready to get on the water. The patrols for the remainder of September have been approved. We will be working on getting everyone their hours, and hopefully do a couple of training events during those patrols.

In closing we have our Elections coming up so those whom wish to be considered for an elected position should submit their Letters of Intent. On 15-17 Sep 23, the District Biz-Train is being held in St Louis. The information can be found on the District Website for attendance and training opportunities. Also, on 30 Sep 23, we have the Division Meeting and Election/Dinner.

As always, I truly appreciate your efforts in all you do and your support!

Barclay Stebbins, FC

Bobby Byars Foundation  
Public Safety Days  
At Metropolitan Community College  
Fort Omaha Campus



Pictured left to right: Patrick Rezac, FSO-AS/PA / Barb Westcott, VFC, FSO-PB/DV /  
Jim Westcott, VDCR /FSO-CM/MT / Randy Evans, VFC 85-33-3 / SO-PA  
Picture by Barclay Stebbins, FC 85-33-1

Improvise, Adapt and Overcome - - - A long standing mantra in the U.S. Military and members of 8th Western Rivers Region, Division 33 came together and made it happen.” With only 5 days to put it together our Division was invited to participate in the Bobby Byars Foundation “Community Safety Days” at Metropolitan Community College by the Corps of Engineers. Several members of Flotillas 33-1 and 33-3 participated in this event. This event gave our members the chance to interact with a section of our community that we normally do not meet. We met with several members of the community who were interested in our missions as well as the possibility of membership in the Auxiliary. The event brought members of the community into contact with the Auxiliary and learned about our mission of Recreational Boating Safety. The members of our Division were assured that we would be invited to future events held on the Metro Community Campus.



## THE DIVERSITY MINUTE

This information can be found at:

[How to Boost Diversity and Inclusion in Volunteer Programs  
\(linkedin.com\)](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/how-boost-diversity-inclusion-volunteer-programs-kristen-lynn/)

Last updated on Aug 25, 2023

### How do you increase diversity and inclusion in volunteer programs?

Powered by AI and the LinkedIn community

Diversity and inclusion are important values for any organization, especially for those that rely on volunteers to achieve their mission. However, creating and maintaining a diverse and inclusive volunteer program can be challenging, especially in times of social change and uncertainty. In this article, you will learn some practical tips on how to increase diversity and inclusion in your volunteer programs, from recruitment to retention, and from training to recognition.

#### Why diversity and inclusion matter

Diversity and inclusion are not just buzzwords, they are essential for the success and sustainability of your volunteer program. Diversity means having volunteers from different backgrounds, identities, experiences, and perspectives, who can bring their unique skills, talents, and insights to your work. Inclusion means creating a culture of belonging, respect, and empowerment, where every volunteer feels valued, supported, and engaged. The advantages of a diverse and inclusive volunteer program are vast - it can help you reach more communities and beneficiaries by reflecting and understanding their needs; it can boost creativity and innovation through the diverse ideas and opinions of your volunteers; it can improve your performance and impact by leveraging the skills, knowledge, and abilities of your volunteers; and it can bolster your reputation by displaying your commitment to social justice, equity, and inclusion.



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## How to recruit diverse volunteers

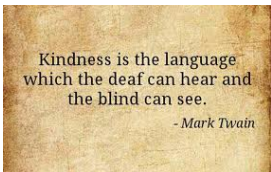
The first step to increasing diversity and inclusion in your volunteer program is to recruit diverse volunteers, which means expanding outreach and communication strategies to attract and engage people from different groups and segments of society. To do this, you should conduct a diversity audit of your current volunteer base to identify gaps and opportunities for improvement. Additionally, review and update your recruitment materials, such as websites, flyers, brochures, and social media posts to ensure they are inclusive, accessible, and appealing. Partnering with diverse organizations and networks such as community groups, cultural associations, faith-based organizations, schools, colleges, and businesses can also help promote volunteer opportunities and referrals. Lastly, create and advertise diverse volunteer roles that match the interests, skills, and availability of different types of volunteers like youth, seniors, families, professionals, students, newcomers, or those with disabilities.

## How to train diverse volunteers

The second step to increasing diversity and inclusion in your volunteer program is to train diverse volunteers. This involves providing them with the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to be successful in their role, as well as educating them about your organization's values and policies regarding diversity and inclusion. To do this, you should develop and deliver a comprehensive orientation program that covers the basics of your mission, vision, goals, and culture, as well as the specific duties and tasks of the volunteer role. Additionally, offer ongoing training and development opportunities that focus on topics such as cultural competency, anti-oppression, anti-racism, conflict resolution, and team building. Furthermore, use diverse and inclusive training methods such as online modules, webinars, workshops, videos, podcasts, and handouts that cater to different learning styles. Lastly, seek feedback from your volunteers to evaluate the effectiveness of your training program and identify areas for improvement.

## How to retain diverse volunteers

Retaining diverse volunteers is the third step to increasing diversity and inclusion in your volunteer program. To keep volunteers motivated, engaged, and committed to your organization, it's important to provide regular support and supervision, create a sense of community and belonging, offer flexible and meaningful volunteer opportunities, and acknowledge and appreciate them. This could involve checking in with volunteers, listening to their concerns and suggestions, addressing their challenges and problems, providing guidance and advice, celebrating diversity and inclusion of your team, matching skills with organization needs, expressing gratitude verbally or in writing, highlighting their stories on social media or website, nominating them for awards or recognition programs, and inviting them to events or activities.



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

- Mark Twain

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## How to measure diversity and inclusion

Measuring diversity and inclusion in your volunteer program is the fourth step to increasing it. This involves collecting and analyzing data and information to assess the progress and outcomes of your efforts, and reporting and communicating your results to demonstrate accountability and transparency. To do this, you should define and track diversity and inclusion indicators and metrics, such as the number, demographics, satisfaction, retention, and impact of your volunteers. Additionally, use diverse methods of data collection, such as surveys, interviews, focus groups, observations, and testimonials to capture both quantitative and qualitative aspects of your performance. Analyze the data to identify strengths and weaknesses in your practices, compare results with goals and standards, and generate insights for improvement. Lastly, report and communicate findings to share with stakeholders, showcase achievements and impacts, and solicit feedback for future actions.

## How to improve diversity and inclusion

The final step to increasing diversity and inclusion in your volunteer program is to improve diversity and inclusion. This involves implementing and monitoring changes and improvements, as well as reviewing and updating your strategies and plans. To do this, you should create an action plan that outlines the specific actions, responsibilities, timelines, and resources for improving your performance. Additionally, you should review and update policies and procedures that reflect your commitment to diversity and inclusion. Engaging stakeholders such as volunteers, staff, beneficiaries, partners, and donors is also important. Invite them to participate in decision making and implementation, seek their opinions, ideas, and feedback, and acknowledge their contributions. Lastly, it is important to learn from experiences by celebrating successes, acknowledging challenges and failures, seeking best practices and lessons learned, and embracing continuous learning.





## INFORMATION BUG SEPTEMBER, 2023

The information for this article was found at:  
hello@interestingfacts.com  
And forwarded by Jean Goble, retired, 85-33-1

### Royal Air Force WWII uniforms included a pants button that served as a compass.

Tiny, hidden survival tools packed into the waistband of your pants may sound like something fantastical from a spy movie, but in the case of British wartime pilots, they were a reality. During World War II, the Royal Air Force sent its aviators skyward with all the tools they'd need to complete a mission, along with a few that could help them find their way home if they crash-landed behind enemy lines. One of the smallest pieces of survival gear pilots carried was a [compass built into the button](#) of their trousers.

Three months after entering World War II, the British military launched its MI9 division, a secret intelligence department tasked with helping service members evade enemy forces or escape capture. Between 1939 and 1945, masterminds at MI9 created a variety of intelligence-gathering and survival tools for troops, such as [uniform-camouflaging dye shaped like candy almonds](#), ultra-compressed medications packed inside pens, and button compasses. The discreet navigational tools were [typically made from two buttons](#), the bottom featuring a tiny needle. When balanced on the spike, the top button acted as a compass that rotated with the Earth's poles; two dots painted on the metal with luminous paint represented north, and one indicated south.

MI9 distributed [more than 2.3 million of its button compasses](#) during the war. They could be paired with secretive maps that were smuggled to captured service members inside care packages delivered to prisoner-of-war camps. Often [printed on silk for durability and waterproofing](#), the [44 different maps](#) (sent to different camps based on location) were tucked discreetly into boot heels and board games. The ingenuity worked — by the war's end, MI9 was credited with helping more than 35,000 Allied soldiers escape and make their way home.



**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
8th Western Rivers Region  
Division 33  
Invites YOU to our fall  
2023 Election Meeting  
& Dinner**

***ELECTION MEETING***

will be held at the  
Auxiliary Station Omaha  
located at 9800 John J Pershing Drive, Omaha  
NE.

On the 30th of September, 2023  
and will start promptly at 10:00 Hrs. (local time).

**Uniform will be “Trops” or business attire.**

***ELECTION DINNER***

will be held at the  
LaMesa RESTERAUNT  
Located at 1405 Fort Road S, Bellevue at 1800  
Hrs.

Casual dress is suggested.

We will order off the menu

**RSVP to Barb Westcott for a dinner count**

# September 2023



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 Flotilla Meeting	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



# October 2023



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