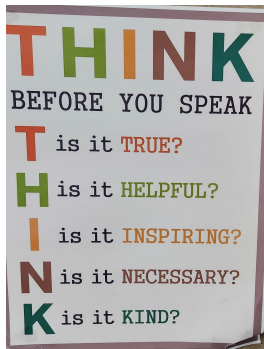


“The Fun One”

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 02, FEBRUARY 2024



*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) - Patrick Rezac
Immediate Past Flotilla Commander (IPFC) - James Wolfe
AUX Scout - Patrick Rezac
Communications (FSO-CM) - Jim Westcott
Communication Services (FSO-CS)- Jim Wolfe
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

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Feb 2-4

Lincoln Boat Show

Feb 19

Flotilla Meeting

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.

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Send articles for "The Fun One" to:
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E-mail: kc0h1b@cox.net

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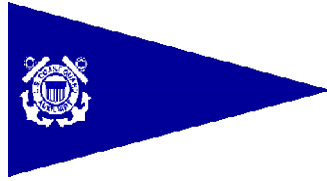
**On Facebook we are found at:
USCGAUX Flotilla 85-33-01**

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

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

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FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S MONTHLY LETTER



FEBRUARY 2024

Trivia: February 1st 1963: The Coast Guard's "newest" helicopter, the Sikorsky HH-52, performed its first rescue. On February 1, 1963, the F/V *Enterprise* sank after colliding with ice off Hyannis, Massachusetts. The two crewman of the vessel abandoned and sought safety on the ice. After a 63-mile flight, 56 of which were over water at night, the aircraft commander, LT R. A. Johannsen, landed the HH-52A (CG-1352) on the ice and made the rescue.

We start this month leaving behind the frigid cold and snow of January. Our first meeting of the year was held via Zoom due to the weather. I am looking forward to our in-person meeting on 19 Feb.

This past weekend Division 33 held their first meeting of 2024 at the Moorings and Change of Watch Ceremony at Cascio's steakhouse. We had two active duty guests from Sector Upper, LTJG Cory LaDuque, Auxiliary Liaison, and Senior Chief Dave Knapp. They provided great feedback on our contributions to our boating safety missions and the Coast Guard. They also participated in our traditional Passing of the Lantern ceremony as the Elected and appointed members present took their oaths of office. Congratulations to our new bridge for 2024.

February is the time when we start planning for our spring and summer activities. As you review the events from last year, reflect on what we could have done better or differently to expand on our outreach. Those include, our MS, PE, PA and VE events and possibly consolidating some of these for larger turnout and interest in our programs, organization, and the Coast Guard.

This is also the month when required annual training starts to roll out. For those that need RM/TCT, dates are now being put out there so watch for those if you need it. Also, for those that need the VE refresher, the course is out there for 2024 and the IT will be coming soon as published in ALAUX 02/24. For the VE and IT refresher, those completions are certified by the Self Attestation form on the site. Please send those forms to me upon completion.

There are some other opportunities being presented at the Spring DTrain in St Louis 17-20 Apr 2024. Check the District website for more information.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting 19 Feb 2024.

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

Barclay Stebbins, FC



THE DIVERSITY MINUTE

This information can be found at:

[2023-08-SEP-Diversity Moment-Final - Google Docs](#)

USCG Auxiliary Diversity Moment

September 2023

Public Service Defined

"In a sense, people are our proper occupation. Our job is to do them good..." –Marcus Aurelius

Before Captain Zeita Merchant joined the Coast Guard, her professional life journey began with volunteer service in her local community. She credited her mother in encouraging that path for her as a young girl. Volunteering for different opportunities while growing up set the stage for and developed her passion for service. She clearly sees people as her 'proper occupation' and saw the Coast Guard as her conduit to that end.

As was mentioned in last month's Diversity Moment, the Coast Guard's decision long ago to open all its ranks and rates to qualified individuals, regardless of race, has paid dividends and provided numerous exceptional leaders like CAPT Merchant. Currently Commander, Sector

New York, CAPT Merchant will become the first Black female to be promoted to the Flag rank of Rear Admiral, Lower Half (RDML). Her background is rich in high-academic achievements, as well as many Coast Guard awards -- including three Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medals. Not at all surprising, given her commitment to making a positive difference at every level.

CAPT Merchant has said the biggest threat the military faces going into the 21st Century is the difficulty in adjusting to the needs of current members and prospective candidates. One of her priorities is to improve military recruitment and retention, particularly of women and underrepresented minorities. Her story is our story: She began with volunteering, just like each of us in the Auxiliary. CAPT Merchant has said, "I feel as if we're responsible for giving back to not only the institutions that allow us to be where we are, but to help develop our future public servants. I truly believe there is no higher calling..." In each of us, there is a sense of duty to do something—anything to serve and help people. We would do well to follow her example – if CAPT Merchant was able to spectacularly achieve all she has with her background of volunteerism and service, think of all we can do as the Auxiliary with our thousands of varied and diverse perspectives, experiences, and skills.

Michael Brown, BC-DUP Outreach (Diversity & Inclusion Directorate)



INFORMATION BUG

JANUARY, 2024

The information for this article was found at:

[Make A Plan | Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan)

Make a plan today. Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to know which [types of disasters](#) could affect your area. Know how you'll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a family meeting place that's familiar and easy to find.

Step 1: Put a plan together by discussing the questions below with your family, friends or household to start your emergency plan.

- How will I receive [emergency alerts and warnings](#)?
- What is my [shelter](#) plan?
- What is my [evacuation](#) route?
- What is my [family/household communication plan](#)?
- Do I need to update my [emergency preparedness kit](#)?

Step 2: Consider specific needs in your household.

As you prepare your plan tailor your plans and supplies to your specific daily living needs and responsibilities. Discuss your needs and responsibilities and how people in the network can assist each other with communication, care of children, business, pets or specific needs like operating medical equipment. Create your own personal network for specific areas where you need assistance. Keep in mind some these factors when developing your plan:

- Different ages of members within your household
- Responsibilities for assisting others
- Locations frequented
- Dietary needs
- Medical needs including prescriptions and equipment

Continued on the next page

- Disabilities or access and functional needs including devices and equipment
- Languages spoken
- Cultural and religious considerations
- Pets or service animals
- Households with school-aged children

Step 3: Create a Family Emergency Plan

Make a Family Emergency Plan quickly and easily with our fillable form.

[Make a Family Emergency Plan](#)

Step 4: Practice your plan with your family/household Preparedness Materials

- **Know Your Alerts and Warnings** in [English](#) or [Additional Languages](#)
- **12 Ways to Prepare** in [English](#) or [Additional Languages](#)
- **Document and Insure Your Property** in [English](#) or [Additional Languages](#)
- **Safeguard Critical Documents and Valuables** in [English](#) or [Additional Languages](#)

Additional Content

[FEMA Online Ordering Site Emergency Plan for Commuters](#) (PDF)

[Pet Owners](#) (PDF)

[Safeguard Documents and Valuables](#) (PDF)

[Emergency Financial First Aid Kit](#) (PDF)

[Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Disaster Checklist](#) (PDF)

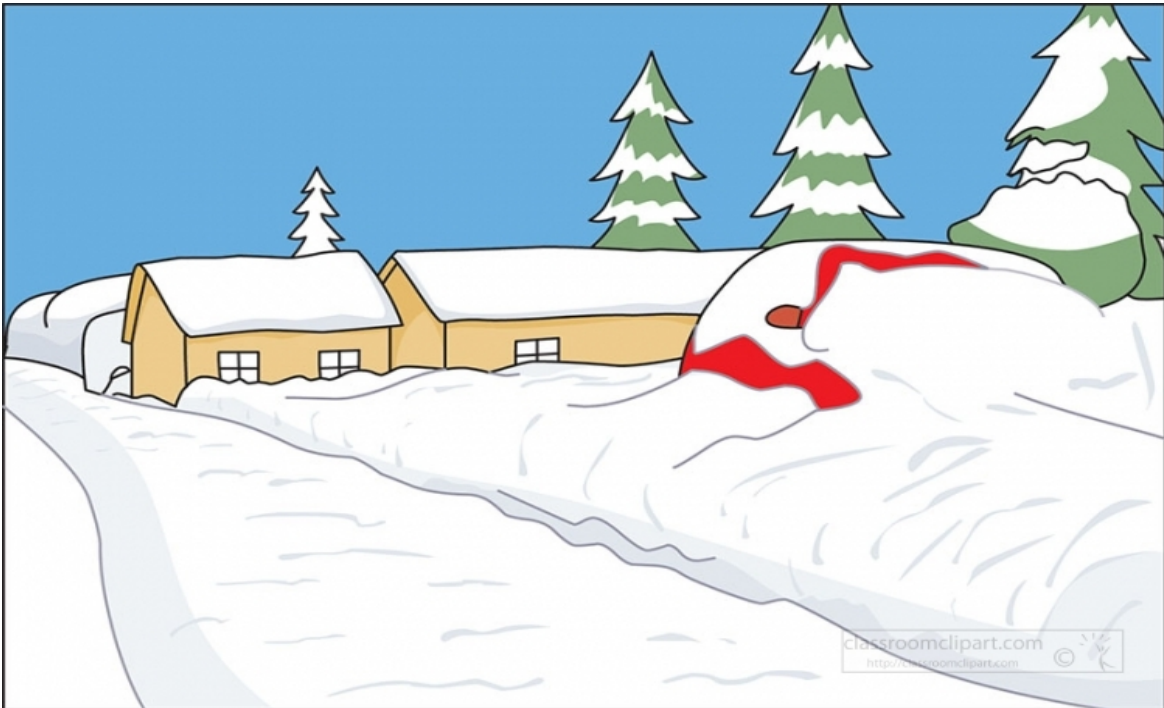
[Make a Plan](#) (Video)

Basic Disaster Supplies Kit

To assemble your kit store items in airtight plastic bags and put your entire disaster supplies kit in one or two easy-to-carry containers such as plastic bins or a duffel bag.

A basic emergency supply kit could include the following recommended items:

- **Water** (one gallon per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation)
- **Food** (at least a several-day supply of non-perishable food)
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle (to signal for help)
- Dust mask (to help filter contaminated air)
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place)
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties (for personal sanitation)
- Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
- Manual can opener (for food)
- Local maps
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery



Additional Emergency Supplies

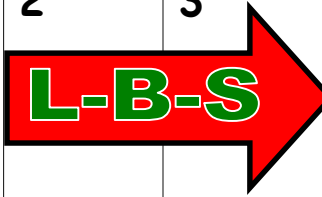
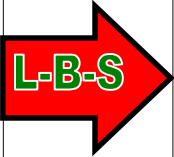

Consider adding the following items to your emergency supply kit based on your individual needs:

- Soap, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes to disinfect surfaces
- Prescription medications. About half of all Americans take a prescription medicine every day. An emergency can make it difficult for them to refill their prescription or to find an open pharmacy. Organize and protect your prescriptions, over-the-counter drugs, and vitamins to prepare for an emergency.
- Non-prescription medications such as pain relievers, anti-diarrhea medication, antacids or laxatives
- Prescription eyeglasses and contact lens solution
- Infant formula, bottles, diapers, wipes and diaper rash cream
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Cash or traveler's checks
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records saved electronically or in a waterproof, portable container
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
- Complete change of clothing appropriate for your climate and sturdy shoes
- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children



February 2024



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

March 2024



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
31						