



# From the Helm

By COMO JESSE L. HARRUP, JR. DCDR3

## Preventing On-Water Mishaps & Injuries

As I write this, on June 25th, the full fury of a Virginia summer has arrived; temperatures are forecasted between 95° and 100° this week. Division 3 boat crew personnel are currently everywhere in our area of operations, (including yours truly), executing our on-the-water operations programs. These missions can and sometimes do place our boat crew members in situations with the potential to lead to injuries. Our reason for being placed in such situations is driven by our responsibilities to the recreational boating public to assist them in boating safely. Make no mistake: the recreational boating public is also on the water in full force now because of the heat and the fact that the “kids are out of school,” we need to stay safe to be there for them.

I have witnessed dozens of new Auxiliarists becoming boat crew and coxswain qualified in the past two (2) years in our division. This is great news, but for our people who go on the water to assist our boating constituency, can injuries always be prevented as we run our patrols? Experience says “sometimes not”, due to circumstances often beyond our control. Being a new crewperson just adds to the prospect. However, several very good educational awareness programs are available to assist our members in minimizing injuries and to educate the recreational boating public as well. As we understand how to minimize our exposure to these potential circumstances, through our participation in these programs, then ultimately we begin the process of preventing injuries.

One of the best injury prevention/situational awareness courses is *Team Coordination*

*Training* (TCT). It was developed by the U. S. Coast Guard and adapted for use by the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Team Coordination Training is aimed at changing the way we look at risk and work as teams. This training is designed for the unit, not just specific people. Through focusing on the seven (7) key aspects Team Coordination Training, we are able to use a team setting to examine risk and truly implement and utilize Operational Risk Management. The functional areas of TCT are 1) **leadership**, 2) **commu-**

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**COMO Jesse L. Harrup, Jr. Commander—  
Chesapeake Division**

*—From the files of COMO Jesse L. Harrup, Jr.*

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# From the Helm

By COMO JESSE L. HARRUP, JR. DCDR3

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nication, 3) assertiveness, 4) decision making, 5) adaptability, 6) mission analysis, and 7) situational awareness. Through annual refresher courses and a five-year full re-exposure to TCT, Auxiliary Coxswains and crew learn to utilize these seven (7) key aspects to help prevent operational injuries.

Now, how can we prevent injuries to the recreational boater and their families? In the Auxiliary, the two most effective programs we offer are the public education (PE) classes (e. g. *About Boating Safely* and *Boating Skills and Seamanship* to name a couple) and the Vessel Safety Check (VSC) program. Both have their pros and cons relating to effectiveness. One (1) advantage with PE is that boaters receive intensive, lengthy (from eight hours to 13 weeks) information on safety that can be applied to minimize injuries while on the water. As a sometimes disadvantage, this information is received in a classroom setting and often during non-boating seasons, which means boaters might not remember much by the time boating season arrives. With the VSC, boaters

receive an intensive review of equipment on their boats as they prepare to launch. Receiving this information in such a timely manner is a definite advantage in education about injury prevention related to safety items on the vessel. The disadvantage is that a VSC is a relatively short (20-25 minutes) opportunity and the boater is often in a hurry to either get on the water or get home.

I feel very strongly that both public education and vessel safety checks are the most effective tools we have to educating recreational boaters on hazards they may encounter and how thus to avoid and minimize injury. Additionally, for our coxswains and crew the tenants of TCT, when practiced, will help to assist us in preventing injuries so that we may always safely, and effectively, help the boating public when called upon. Please consider a USCGAUX "career" in Operations, Public Education or Vessel Examiner in order to have an opportunity to directly save lives and educate the boating public in minimizing on the water injuries; thanks.

# Lookin' Thru

By JOHN RIVES, VCDR3

"Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink," seemed to fit with the situation we encountered on a very hot day (with apologies to *"The Ancient Mariner"*). We were on the way back to home port when we came across a small boat. Way too far from shore, it's small engine was barely making headway against the current. The three persons aboard seemed confused and disoriented. There was no shade or shelter on the boat.

Closer inspection revealed no water or food aboard. We feared they might be dangerously close to heat exhaustion and dehydration. They hadn't yet tried to drink any salt water from the bay.

Since we had decided to return early, because of the heat, our coolers were still nearly full with ice, water, and one friend's ever-present Gator-Aid. While the three sipped water and Gator-Aid, we cooled them off with spray from the wash-down pump. Afterward, we helped them return to the campground where they had launched the tiny boat. I tell this story simply to illustrate how important it is to be properly prepared when you go out on really hot days like we have had recently. Take twice as much ice, water, etc. as you think you might need. You might have enough to share as we did. Have some way to cool off if necessary. Be safe, we need you.



John Rives, Vice Commander, Division 3.

—Division 3 Website

# RRBA Charity Ride

By JOE RILEY, IPDCDR, SO-MT3, FSO-PA FL 3-10

May 22, 2010-- Flotilla 3-10 OPFAC #22246 with members Richard Flaherty and Joe Riley aboard participated in a charity event hosted by the Rappahannock River Boaters Association (RRBA) for a dozen terminally ill children and their families.



*Siblings aboard the "Princess Too".*

—Joe Riley

RBA provided a picnic and rides aboard their high performance boats that attain speeds of 100 MPH or more. Auxiliary members talked boating with the families, helped children get the right size life jacket on before embarking on a FAST ride aboard an RRBA boat.

Senior Chief Welsh, OIC, STA Milford Haven provided a trailered boat and crew for the event. Petty Officers Lewis, Burn-

ham, Ferguson, and Rankin guided passengers in on-board (not underway) tours including operating the marine "radio", hailing parents, and signaling with the siren. They were a big hit with the kids, their siblings, parents, and RRBA members.



*BM1 Lewis with a survivor.*

—Joe Riley

Four kids took home a USCG ball cap, compliments of the crew. All took home show 'n tell stories for school on Monday.

Overall, it was a very productive start to Safe Boating Week by three boating partners. We didn't save any lives but we helped make dozens of them happier by a day.

# Petersburg Air Crew Save Two

By CRAIG GILKISON, SO-PA3, FSO-MS32, FSO-PA32

Saturday, 22 May 1630. Location: Chesapeake Bay, Virginia

The crew of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Cessna Skylane N4007S aircraft was on a routine patrol over the Chesapeake Bay. We had just cleared Cape Charles heading south. Radio traffic increased as we approached Norfolk airspace. One more turn to the West and we would be heading home up the James River to the Dinwiddie airport.

Then an emergency call came in on the Coast Guard radio. "Capsized boat, two people in the water- vicinity Stingray Point. Can you assist?" Our radio operator replied, "Roger, turning for Stingray Point." Our pilot made the turn before the transmission ended.

Not ten minutes later the Coast Guard radioed a new location for the Search and Rescue mission- vicinity Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel. Again the turn was made, almost automatically. In minutes we were on station, decreased altitude and began the search

pattern.

We fly one two mile leg then turn. Another leg then turn again. That's how a sector search is done. We saw plenty of traffic on the water. There were pleasure boats of every description, merchant ships at anchor and a few headed out to sea. A loaded container ship was making way at a good speed for port, a typically busy Saturday afternoon. A patrol boat in gray Navy livery passed beneath us then headed east out of our search area. Our search continued.

An overturned boat should be fairly easy to find. There wasn't one. After a while I saw an object in the sea that looked out of place- way out of place. It was red or orange but not shaped or sized like the crab pots we see so often in training. I told the pilot to come right 90 degrees for a closer look. He slowed the aircraft even more and turned. Small objects are very difficult to see

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# Petersburg Air Crew Saves Two

By CRAIG GILKISON, SO-PA3, FSO-MS32, FSO-PA32

(Continued from page 3)

from the air and the object came into, and then went out of sight several times. We circled once, twice, again, and then I saw him. He was wearing a blue shirt, holding the orange object with his left arm while waving with his right. I notified the pilot that I "had him".

He was in the shipping lane and that container ship was bearing down on him-fast. The situation was getting tense. There was no chance that anyone on that ship could see people in the water. It was impossible for that vessel to turn or stop. By this time an orange hull Coast Guard patrol boat had entered the area from the West.

We had no time to establish radio contact with the rescue boat. We continuously circled the person(s) in the water to mark their location.

The boat crew had to get to those people quickly but not so fast

as to overrun them. It's difficult to see a one foot object bobbing in waves three feet high!

Fortunately they slowed just in time and we watched the crew pull two people from the sea. The boat sped away just minutes before the huge ship overran the location of the rescue.

We secured the search and headed home. It was a good day for the Coast Guard and a good day for a local Auxiliary air crew donating their time. Two lives were saved and we were soon back in the hanger cleaning the airplane.

The Pilot in Command was Ken Guthrie, businessman, experienced pilot, and Auxiliarist, mentor and aircraft owner of Colonial Heights. The observer was me, Craig Gilkison, retired Army/Navy veteran, 12 year Auxiliarist of Hopewell. The radio operator/observer was Lee Litchfield, retired pharmacist, experienced Auxiliarist of Prince George.

## Change of Watch in the USCG Auxiliary's Caribbean Division of the International Affairs Directorate

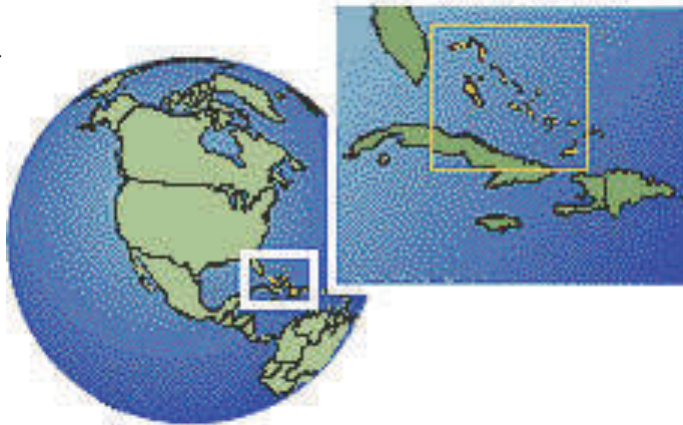
By J. BRIAN McARDLE, BC-IACS, VFC33

On 1 June, John C. Cooper will retire from the position of Division Chief – Caribbean, one that he has held since March 2007. The new Acting Division Chief – Caribbean will be J. Brian McArdle.

During Mr. Cooper's tour as Division Chief, the Caribbean Division, which encompasses all the nations in the Caribbean Basin, has shown dramatic growth in its two primary missions: that of encouraging and supporting nations who desire to form volunteer Search and Rescue organizations and promoting boating safety and security within the region. Two new volunteer organizations were formed during his tour and four more currently are in the process of being formed. There are 21 volunteer SAR organizations in the Caribbean Basin countries now, soon to be 25. The establishments of such volunteer organizations serve as a "force multiplier" and effectively relieves government and law enforcement agencies to concentrate on security activities, which only they are authorized to perform.

Prior to his Auxiliary experience Mr. Cooper was an international banker for 39 years and lived outside the US for 20 years in 5 different countries.

Following his retirement as Division Chief, Mr. Cooper will continue with the Auxiliary's International Affairs Directorate as a Senior Consultant reporting to John VanOsdol, Director. He will also continue to serve as the Caribbean Group Coordinator for the International Maritime Rescue Federation (IMRF) headquartered in Poole, UK.



J. Brian McArdle now assumes the position of Acting Division Chief – Caribbean, for the USCG Auxiliary's International Affairs Directorate. Mr. McArdle most recently served as Branch Chief – Caribbean Liaison, in which capacity he managed the Directorate's efforts in the Spanish, French, and Dutch speaking countries of the Caribbean Basin. His new responsibilities will include assisting Caribbean nations in the establishment of volunteer Search and Rescue organizations and promoting safe boating

practices throughout the region.

Prior to his Auxiliary experience Mr. McArdle was a Senior Vice-President with the Wachovia Corp.

Acting Division Chief McArdle will report directly to Mr. John VanOsdol, Director, USCG Auxiliary International Affairs Directorate.

## Certain ISP Problems with POMS

By DAVID HERNDON, FSO-MS33

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For the last several years I have had considerable problems using POMS on my PC. POMS would often refuse to take information from me, not respond to my commands, and often would go into a hang requiring me to re-boot my PC. The simple task of obtaining patrol orders often took many attempts. I originally thought that the problem was caused by the POMS software and I re-loaded it into my PC several times but with no improvement. After some research, I found that my problems with POMS were not caused by the POMS software but instead were caused by my satellite Internet provider, HughesNet. The long distances (with longer signal time delays) from and to the

HughesNet equatorial geosynchronous satellite are not compatible with POMS. Several months ago I switched from satellite to a cable Internet provider and the POMS connection problems completely disappeared.

If any Auxiliarist is having problems using POMS and is using a satellite Internet connection, this long distance Internet connection with its inherent signal time delays is probably the cause of the problem. To solve the problem, change to a non-satellite Internet provider or temporarily use dial up when communicating with POMS.

## Rappahannock River Accident July 5, 2010

By JIM THOMAS III, DSO-IS5SR, SO-CS33

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Per Jim Thomas's report to CDR Whitehead Tuesday, July 6, 2010:

A quick e-mail to notify you that Amy and I responded to an emergency SAR callout by BMCS Matthew Welsh, OIC CG Station Milford Haven last night. We received the call at 2206 and had AUX 27137 underway by 2218. A 2005 Chaparral speed boat with 10 POB crashed into Rappahannock "10" reportedly at about 35 mph. We were first on scene at the site of the accident, arriving at approximately 2318 just ahead of CG 25837 and CG 41503.

*"We were first on scene at the site of the accident, arriving at approximately 2318 just ahead of CG25837 and CG 41503."*

Per direction from MEC Richard Gonzalez, XPO CG Station Milford Haven, we proceeded into Parrots Creek to transport three EMS personnel from Middlesex County to CG41503. During the five medevac helo op-

erations we ran search patterns looking for a missing 25-year old female. Later we received a request to transport four of the victims and five EMS personnel to the Command Center in Parrots Creek for transfer to hospitals. After that we proceeded to Rappahannock "8" and conducted search patterns until 0544 looking for the PIW. State Police divers ultimately found the missing female just after 0800.

As the evening was tiring we contacted and took aboard two additional Flotilla 33 coxswains, Wally Dawson & Brian McArdle to assist with the operation of AUX 27137. We were asked to stay on scene until relieved, which occurred at 0835.

We also responded to a request from CAPT Ogle that we take pictures of the vessels involved in the operations.

Details on the victims can be found at <http://www.nbc12.com/Global/story.asp?S-12758764>.

## PORTHOLE Editor Receives Promotion, Seeking New Editor

By SHARON BEACH, ADSO-PB5SR, SO-PB3, FSO-CS3-10

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The PORTHOLE editor, Sharon Beach, received a promotion to ADSO-PB from District Commodore Al DeJean, Jr. on Monday, July 12th.

Sharon will be assisting Erik Amato, DSO-PB with compilation of the BLINKER through the end of 2010, when he will transition to ADSO-PB and Sharon is expected to move up to DSO-PB.

Plans are for the BLINKER to move to a digital version housed on the district website in 2011.

Erik has done a bang-up job with the BLINKER for many, many years and deserves great praise and thanks for his faithful duty in this great publication. He intends to continue with the "Fabulous

Fifth" pocket calendar and information booklet at this time. All this being said, Division 3 will require a new editor in 2011. The position includes reviewing articles for submission, forwarding said articles to the division commander for review/approval; re-formatting submitted photographs for web publication (small dpi, smaller file size), compiling the newsletter, forwarding completed newsletter to division commander for final approval. You or your division commander will then forward to the Board and Staff of Division 3 (Board forwards to their flotilla members), SO-CS will publish to the website. You must also provide a monthly report to the Board and Staff.

Any members interested in holding this position, please contact COMO Jesse Harrup, Jr, or John Rives, VCDR.

# National Safe Boating Week Vessel Safety Check Day

By BRIAN McARDLE, BC-IACS, VFC33

One of the activities that Flotilla 33 scheduled for National Safe Boating Week was a Vessel Safety Check Day at Ingram Bay Marina. In addition to providing VSCs to the boat owners at the Marina, boaters that used the boat launch were also offered a free VSC.

“People know about the Vessel Safety Check Program,” commented Pat Hogan, Flotilla Staff Officer. “We find they are hesitant to call to make an appointment, however, when they see our people at the marina or a boat ramp, they are quick to ask for a VSC.”

“Our success is due to being seen and being proactive,” said Wally Dawson, Flotilla Com-



**Howard Montgomery with John Bowden and David Wright after their PWC passed a VSC.**

—Brian McArdle

mander. “You have to be out there and talk it up at your Safe Boating Booths. You have to bring the program to the boaters; you can’t wait for them to come to you.”

Howard Montgomery, a Vessel Examiner, stated that many of the Marina Owners like the program since it helps educate their customers in safety which in turn, makes for a safer marina. “Billy Pipkin, the owner of Ingram Bay Marina, has already asked us to come back again this year for another safety day.”

## Auxiliary Memorial has a New Look

By BRIAN McARDLE, BC-IACS, VFC 33

Senior Chief Matthew Welsh, Officer in Charge at Coast Guard Station Milford Haven wanted to dress up the station’s grounds through a beautification project. Although the grounds are kept neat and trim, Welsh thought that some plants would increase the overall appeal of the Station.

“After thinking about it, we approached Senior Chief Welsh with an idea that if we were going to install plantings around the station, what better place than the Auxiliary Memorial,” said Wally Dawson, Flotilla 33 Commander. “The Memorial is already attractive and welcoming and we thought that adding some plants would enhance the overall look.”

Wally Dawson, Brian McArdle, John Mill, Amy Thomas and Jim Thomas initiated the project but quickly realized that expert help was needed. Bonnie Dawson, Lynn McArdle and Betty Mill were quickly recruited for the project. A lot of research and visits to stores narrowed the choices down to the final selection. “Everyone had input and contributed to the beautification project,” commented Jim Thomas. “We wanted to make sure that it maintained the dignity of the Memorial, blend in with the surroundings while being easy to maintain.

While waiting for warmer weather, decisions were made as to what to plant and how. Once the weather was good for planting,

the plants were ordered, the chosen planters were picked up and a date scheduled for installation.

“Getting eight busy people together at short notice is difficult,” said Dawson. “So we picked a date and unfortunately John and Betty Mill were already busy. Then on the way to Milford Haven, we found out that Amy Thomas is having emergency root canal surgery. Since we had the plants, containers, tools and dirt already loaded up, we decided to proceed anyways”.



**The new look of the Auxiliary Memorial at CS Station Milford Haven.**

—Brian McArdle

“I am really pleased at how this turned out,” mentioned BMCS Welsh. “The plants not only dress up the station’s grounds but add to the attractiveness of the Memorial. I appreciate the efforts not only of the Auxiliary members, but the non-members that contributed also.”

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Members that have “crossed the bar” and performed operational support in Station Milford Haven’s Area of Responsibility are eligible to be remembered with an inscribed brick. For more information and an application, go to <http://a0540303.uscgaux.info>.

Scroll down under Home Page and click on Auxiliary Memorial. Auxiliary members should contact spouses of deceased members to insure they are aware of the memorial.

# SPOTLIGHT on Flotilla 31

By MEMBERS as Noted Below Each Article

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

Fl 31 has been so fortunate this year in the number of outstanding new Instructors we have gained. Most are in the field of Education in some form or another. We are also very lucky to keep our "Elder" ITs. This makes it so much easier for the new to learn. They are eager to go "full speed ahead" and 3 have already asked to teach in the fall BS&S class – and they will. The new enthusiasm they bring to the PE Department is catching and has brought all the Instructors closer together with the help and "tips" they exchange.

With the new Boating Laws in effect, more and more are requesting State Classes and we have had a good attendance – thus far, from January to May 29<sup>th</sup> Fl 31 has taught 367 students with 9 failing. Plus 54 kindergarteners from St. Bridget's, taught by Nick Kuriger. Nick's daughter attends St. Bridget's. He has been asked back for next year. This gives us a grand total for the first five months of 421 students. From a number this large we also gained new members. With the June 27 class standing right now with 60 students signed up and already registering for July 25, there are more prospects. Hopefully it will impact on our BS&S classes. We also gained a new venue – Gander Mountain. The manager invited us back anytime.

When both Bill Whitlock and I were ill at the same time, our FC Evelyn Koon picked up the reins and kept our classes going – even though she had been ill, too. Jimmy Smith, our "Elder Statesman" can always be depended on to do anything asked of him. He has probably forgotten more than a lot of us know – Thank you Jim. Our thanks to John Campbell, Tom White, Nick Kuriger, and Jim Campbell for stepping up and helping as well as all the aides.



**Donna Cook, seated, and Bill Whitlock received the Governor's Transportation Safety Award from Governor Bob McDonnell.**

*–Virginia Governor's Flickr Website*

Bill Whitlock and I were surprised when we received notification that we had received the Governor's Transportation Safety Award in the field of Water Safety for 2010. It seems that Charlie Sledd, of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries nominated us to the governor. On 14 July, we will attend a tea and reception at the Governor's Mansion, then receive our awards as

well as have photo ops. We were also fortunate to be the only two State Instructors in the Commonwealth to receive a beautiful cherry wood weather station, engraved with our names and hours. This was presented at the State IT workshop in April and we were asked to attend the next DGIF Board Meeting.

I really believe Fl 31's Public Education Department has no way to go except up and with all the hard work I see, that will most certainly happen in 2010.

My thanks to all of you who give so freely of your time to teach people to be a little safer out there, especially with their little ones along.

Donna Cook, FSO-PE 31

## DGIF STATE INSTRUCTOR AWARDS

On April 19, 2010, at the DGIF (Department of Game and Inland Fisheries) State Instructors Workshop, many awards were presented to various state instructors, members of the USPS State Instructors as well as to USCGAUX State Instructors.

Be it ball caps, instructor shirts, portfolios, throw able seat cushions, duffle bags, life vests, watches or the like, none was topped by awards given to Bill Whitlock and Donna Cook, members of

*"Bill Whitlock and I were surprised when we received notification that we received the Governor's Transportation Safety Award in the field of Water Safety for 2010."*

Flotilla 31. They were given engraved barometers – the first time in states history for an award of this type and invited to the DGIF Board Meeting for formal presentation.

These two awards were presented for over 2,000 volunteer hours each in promoting safe boating in Virginia. Mrs. Stacy Brown, Statewide Coordinator, Boating Safety Education presented the various awards on behalf of DGIF.

COMO Everett L Tucker, Jr., ADSO-LLO/SLO VA even commented that this had never before happened as this is the highest award he is aware of ever being issued by the state. Congratulations to all the state instructors, especially those instructors who are members of Flotilla 31.

Evelyn Koon, FC 31

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS EVENTS

Flotilla 31 worked the Boat Show at RIR February 19 - 21. The January Boat Show was cancelled and combined with the one held in February. It was a big Boat Show and we had a chance to share the new Boating Law that everyone will need to take a Boating Safety Class. We had three Flotilla's represented and we enjoyed getting to know each other better.

On Saturday, April 10, Flotilla 31 Color Guard (Mike and Shirley Callahan, James Smith and Nick Kuriger) opened the State Teachers Conference held at The Omni Hotel in Rich-

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# SPOTLIGHT on Flotilla 31

By MEMBERS as Noted Below Each Article

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mond. On the same day we had a PA Booth for the Regatta at Rocketts Landing.

Flotilla 31 had Boating Safety Proclamations from Chesterfield County, Henrico County and the City of Richmond. The Flotilla was praised for the work which the US Coast Guard Auxiliary provides to the boating public through their actions in promoting boating safety.



**Evelyn Koon, FC-31 holding a safe boating proclamation with David Paxton (FL-37), Jason Wilmoth, Tom Jordon, Ben Chappell, Shirley Callahan and Mike Callahan, (all of FL-31).**

*—From the files of Evelyn Koon*

In May we were at The Country Club of Virginia Boating and Water Safety Day. We had several stations which included:

- Inky the Whale Puppet Show
- Line Tossing
- Tying Knots
- How to fit Life Jackets
- Electronic Guessing Game about water safety
- Hands on CB Radio station

It was an enjoyable day for all.

Thursday, May 27, we were at the General Defense Center Safety Day. Again people were really interested in knowing about the Safety Classes. We are getting the word out. I am surprised how many people that still do not know about the new law. We had a great day and lots of information was given out.

Saturday, May 29 we had a PA booth and a VE Station at Duke's Dock Marine Store honoring Boating Safety Month. Channel 12 TV Station came by and interviewed us. We were on the 6 and 11 o'clock news Saturday, Sunday and 12 o'clock news on Monday. It was an exciting day. As luck has it, while I was being interviewed a boat pulled up to be inspected and the news also

showed Jason Wilmoth inspecting a boat. It was a great for the Coast Guard and Flotilla 31.

Saturday, June 5, Flotilla 31 was at the Hanover County Park for their Family Fishing and Safety Day. We had different stations like we had at The Country Club of Virginia. We had fun but it was HOT!

Shirley Callahan, FSO-PA

## WAL-MART GRANT

The Coast Guard Foundation in association with the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association filed for a grant with Wal-Mart stores across the nation. In April, the Walmart store located on Midlothian Turnpike awarded a grant check dedicated to Flotilla 31 for the amount of \$300. Peter Kirkpatrick, VFC - FI 31, received the check on behalf of the Flotilla from Wal-Mart manager Ms. Martina.

Peter Kirkpatrick, VFC



**Peter Kirkpatrick, VFC-31, receiving Wal-Mart grant from store manager Ms. Martina.**

*—From the files of Evelyn Koon*

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# SPOTLIGHT on Flotilla 31

By MEMBERS as Noted Below Each Article

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## INTERPRETER CORPS

Division counts four members who are qualified in the Auxiliary Interpreter Corps, a Division of the USCG Auxiliary International Affairs Directorate. Flotilla 31 has in its ranks three translators/interpreters: Jim Campbell, Françoise Kirkpatrick and Peter Kirkpatrick.

Recently, the Kirkpatrick's, who are qualified as Level "A" French language specialists in the Auxiliary Interpreter Corps, were deployed for a USCG and USN assignment in the Republic of Seychelles, located in the Indian Ocean. The Kirkpatrick's left for the Seychelles on February 25th and were berthed aboard the



**Peter Kirkpatrick active in boarding training.**

*—From the files of Peter and Françoise Kirkpatrick*

HSV-2 Swift docked at Port Victoria where they interpreted training courses for the Seychellois Coast Guard, Fire Brigades and Special Security Forces taught on both the HSV-2 Swift and the USS Nicholas.

Françoise interpreted and translated for the Firefighting and Damage Control course and Peter for the Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure course. They were joined by fellow Auxiliarist Luis

Rodriguez-Cortes from Flotilla 054-21-07 who interpreted for the Train the Trainers course.



**Françoise Kirkpatrick translating pipe patching techniques.**

*—From the files of Peter and Françoise Kirkpatrick*

There were 13, 19 and 9 Seychellois trainees enrolled in the respective classes. All trainees graduated from their courses and received their certificates during a ceremony aboard the Swift on March 3rd.

The HSV-2 Swift also hosted a reception aboard which included the Vice President of Seychelles, Joseph Belmont, the US Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Seychelles, Mary Jo Wills, and the French Ambassador, Philippe Delacroix. The Kirkpatrick's returned to the United States on

March 6th and completed their debriefing at Station Portsmouth on March 10th.

This summer, the Kirkpatrick's are currently assigned by the Interpreter Corps to work on translations from English into French for the Deepwater Horizon Response.

*"..the Kirkpatrick's are currently assigned by the Interpreter Corps to work on translations from English into French for the Deepwater Horizon Response."*

*(Continued on page 10)*

# SPOTLIGHT on Flotilla 31

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For personal and professional reasons the Kirkpatrick's often are busy working in France and in francophone countries. On several occasions, they have also volunteered their time to do patrols with the SNSM (Société Nationale de Sauvetage en Mer) in France. Unlike the USCGAUX which has several missions, the SNSM is limited to only SAR patrols. The SNSM patrols the Kirkpatrick's have conducted offer additional opportunities for them to put to work and into action their knowledge of French nautical and navigational terminology.

Peter Kirkpatrick, VFC

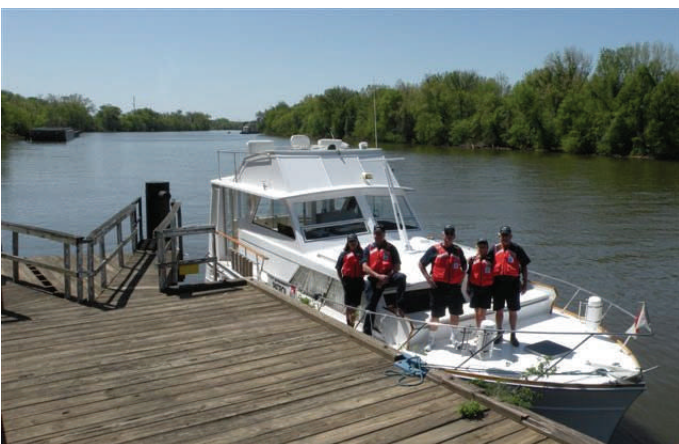
## **RICHMOND ROWING REGATTA**

It has been a few years since Flotilla 31 has patrolled the James River, due to a lack of facilities, crew and coxswains to man them. This situation changed this spring, as two vessels were qualified as facilities. They are owned by Peter and François Kirkpatrick and Tony VanderBurg and Karen Andruzzi.



*Vessels participating in the Richmond Rowing Regatta.*

*—Mary Messenger*



*The Margo Grey facility with coxswain and crew.*

*—Mary Messenger*

Both facilities along with a third from Flotilla 32 performed a regatta patrol for the Richmond Rowing Regatta in April.

The Margo Grey facility (owned by VanderBurg and Andruzzi), was coxswained by Frans Kasteel from Flotilla 33, with crew members David Wilkerson, Tony VanderBurg, Karen Andruzzi, Chris and Mary Messenger.

Mary Messenger, FSO-MT

## **CREW AND COXSWAIN ACADEMY**

Flotilla 31 has been fortunate to once again to participate in a crew academy with twelve students. The first coxswain academy is going well with ten members attending.

Both academies have completed their classroom exercises and are currently performing their under way training. Our thanks to all those involved with these ventures, especially Joe Riley, SO-MT and Judy Julian acting Commander of FL 3-10 who have headed up the crew and coxswain training.

Our special thanks to all the coxswains, crew members and mentors of Flotilla 3-10, 33 and 32 who have so willingly taken our academy members under their wings and helped train them by providing their facilities, time and expertise.

Without this outpouring of support by the members of Division 3 our members would be lacking in the expert help and guidance they have provided. How proud we are to be in Division 3 where everyone so willingly pulls together and helps.

Evelyn Koon, FC

## **SAFE BOATING WEEK**

Flotilla 31 wants to thank Chesterfield County, Henrico County and the City of Richmond for their show of support for the US Coast Guard Safe Boating Week. The Board of Supervisors of Chesterfield and Henrico Counties along with the City Council of Richmond presented Proclamations in support of Safe Boating Week. The presentation on May 11th at the Henrico County Supervisors Board Room had additional support given by the Police and Fire Departments with representation from both groups. Our thanks to all who came out to stand with the auxiliary members present.

With our citizens enjoying all of the water activities, their concern for the safety of these citizens is utmost in importance. The wearing of life jackets when boating as well as taking boating safety classes is stressed by our elected officials. Through public education and with citizens practicing what they learn we can look forward to safer boating on our waterways.

Flotilla 31 was involved in many activities during this time with Public Affairs events, Vessel Safety Checks and Public Education classes. Boating Safety for our citizens is a primary concern of our flotilla members as well as water patrols to help boaters having difficulties.

Evelyn Koon, FC

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# SPOTLIGHT on Flotilla 31

By MEMBERS as Noted Below Each Article

(Continued from page 10)

**UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**  
**DIVISION 3**  
**FIFTH DISTRICT • SOUTHERN REGION**

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"Porthole" photograph on front cover by  
 Sharon M. Beach.

**"Semper Paratus."**



### IN CLOSING

Flotilla 31 has been extremely fortunate in the last year. The influx of new members for the auxiliary seems to be continuing in 2010 as well. After getting 20 new members last year we have already increased with 8 new members this year. A new member package has been sent for the 9<sup>th</sup> new member with others in the works.

The flotilla has been able to increase the number of instructors, vessel examiners and marine dealer visitors. Programs such as Marine Safety are up and running with a number of members working on their Trident qualifications. The flotilla now has two facilities and hopefully more will be added. The Navigation Services program is doing well with several members who have become aids verifiers and striving to become aids technicians.

We have several members involved with mentoring the crew program and available to assist those who wish to pursue there qualifications in the Operations Program. The time and effort put in by the members shows their interest in the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and we appreciate all of the efforts our members put forth. Several members are involved with the translation aspect and have been deployed for this purpose.

If you have time to give and want to do something for our country, the auxiliary and especially Flotilla 31 has a place for you. We are alive and well in the Richmond area, in Division 3 and in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Evelyn Koon, FC

## 2010 Officers and Staff

### Division Commander (DCDR)

COMO Jesse L. Harrup, Jr.

### Division Vice Commander (VCDR)

John Rives

### Immediate Past Division Commander (IPDCDR)

Joseph Riley

### Navigation Systems (SO-NS)

Ted Tulis

### Communications (SO-CM)

Donald Chamberlain

### Marine Safety (SO-MS)

Frans Kasteel

### Operations (SO-OP)

John Mill

### Public Affairs (SO-PA)

Craig Gilkison

### Public Education (SO-PE)

Carroll Barrack

### RBS Program Visitor (SO-PV)

Wolfgang Peters

### Vessel Examiner (SO-VE)

Wolfgang Peters

### Communication Services (SO-CS)

Nicholas Kuriger

### Materials (SO-MA)

John Slayman

### Member Training (SO-MT)

Joseph Riley

### Personnel Services (SO-PS)

Kathleen Lloyd

### Finance (SO-FN)

J. P. Jordaans

### Information Services (SO-IS)

John O'Neil

### Publications (SO-PB)

Sharon Beach

### Secretary/Records (SO-SR)

Carole Featherston

### Grant Writer

David Herndon

### Readiness Coordinator (RC)

Bruce Blanchard

### Security Coordinator (SC)

John Rives

### Chaplain

Ted Tulis

### Memorial Fund

Frans Kasteel