



# USCG Aux. Huntington, NY

## Flotilla 22-01 -The Watcher

For passing web based information to the membership

15 DEC 2010

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cgaux2201@gmail.com

## National News:

What's new in the USCG Aux. in the last 30 days.

### • HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Please make every gift count this holiday season. You can find coupons at more than 1,600 top stores (including Amazon, Macy's, J.Crew, Toys R Us, Best Buy, Gap and more) AND a percentage of virtually every sale will be donated to support Auxiliary programs through the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association.

Just go to **GoodShop**, select Coast Guard Auxiliary Association - CG AuxA - St. Louis, then click over to your favorite store and shop away!

Or, add the Coast Guard Auxiliary Association - CG AuxA **toolbar** and your purchases will earn a donation to support Auxiliary programs even if you forget to go to **GoodShop** first! There is no easier way to support Auxiliary programs this holiday season! Please spread the word.

*[Posted: Dec 13, 2010. Source: Martin L. Phillips, Executive Director, CGAuxA]*

### • Help Desk - On Line FLC and AUXCOM Courses

Students that are enrolled in the On-Line eBlackboard Flotilla Leadership Course (FLC) and the AUXCOM course are advised not to contact the Southern New Hampshire University Help Desk. That Desk is for university personnel only and they are not equipped to help in Auxiliary matters. Please direct all help issues to Dr. Juan Hernandez until further notice. Thank you for your patience and understanding. *[Posted: Dec 13, 2010. Source: Dr. R. B. Fong, Sr. (DIR-T)]*

### • Deputy Director Appointed

The NACO has approved the permanent appointment of Andrew "Andy" Anderson as the new Deputy Director of Training. Andy brings with him a wealth of managerial experience garnered both as a former CO of the Cutters Cape Small and Dauntless a MEC as well as various tours of administrative and operational duty among which he is a Vietnam veteran, a retired Commander, and is currently a partner in his law firm. Andy's credentials are impeccable demonstrating his managerial experience in the Auxiliary, Coast Guard, and civilian careers. He is currently the Seventh District Legal Officer. Andy was selected from among nine impressive candidates.

*[Posted: Dec 13, 2010. Source: Dr. R. B. Fong, Sr. (DIR-T)]*

- **Cold weather training**

As the temperature drops across most of our nation, Auxiliarists undergo training to operate in frigid conditions. Five members of Divisions 23 and 24, District 5-Southern Region, recently completed cold weather training at Coast Guard Station Annapolis. The Auxiliary is required to wear dry suits while conducting on-the-water patrols when the water temperature drops below 50 degrees, to prevent hypothermia. Read about the requirements and the training, now on [SITREP](#), the Auxiliary's National e-magazine.

*[Posted: Dec 13, 2010. Source: Mel]*

- **Dennis Mullins Appointed Director of the "M" Department**

Dennis Mullins has been appointed Director of the Performance Measurements ("M") Department. He was previously Chief of the National Departments Liaison Division, and is Vice President of BlackRock Private Investors in Cincinnati, Ohio.

*[Posted: Dec 9, 2010. Source: Stephen R. Salmon, ANACO-PS]*

- **Appointment of Deputy Director of Human Resources DIR-Hd**

The National Department of "H" (Human Resources) is proud to announce the appointment of Eugene (Gene) Romanick to the position of Deputy Director of Human Resources, DIR-Hd. Mr. Romanick had presently been the Division Chief of the H Department's Recruitment and Retention Division.

*[Posted: Dec 8, 2010. Source: Joseph G. O'Leary, Director of Human Resources]*

- **Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard host USCG Auxiliary**

Auxiliarists from the International Directorate recently traveled to Trinidad and Tobago to meet with senior officers of the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard. Their presence was requested by the Executive Officer of the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard. The request, to the U.S. Embassy, sought assistance in forming a Coast Guard Auxiliary in Trinidad and Tobago. Read about this trip and the results achieved, now on [SITREP](#), the Auxiliary's National e-magazine.

*[Posted: Dec 6, 2010. Source: Mel Borofsky, Editor SITREP]*

- **2011 West Marine VSC discount coupons**

Great News, the West Marine VSC discount coupon will be continuing in 2011. While this is not an endorsement of West Marine, they do provide a great service to the boater.

As in the past, the coupon is only for safety items to pass the VSC. West Marine requires the boater present a copy of the coupon and the 7012 or 7012A to receive the 10% discount.

Finally, we are told that these are valid now and until 12/31/11 and coupon stock should be available in local stores early next year.

*[Posted: Dec 6, 2010. Source: Lillian M. Haines DIR-V]*

- **Sea Scouts distribute recycle buckets to boaters**

Read about a couple of Florida Sea Scouts who are distributing recycle buckets to boaters as a part of a school and Scout service project. Is this something that your Flotilla could be doing with local Sea Scouts? Read more about it [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

*[Posted: Dec 6, 2010. Source: COMO Nick Tarlson, BC-BLY]*

- **Safety During Lighted Boat Parades**

Lighted boat parades can be spectacular and exciting, especially for children, but they are also inherently dangerous. Participants may lack experience boating at night and become distracted by the festive atmosphere, the bright light displays around them, and having more people on board than usual. Crew members who are operating generators for the first time may fail to follow safe procedures when refueling them; they also may be hooking up too many strings of lights, especially if they use incandescent instead of LED lights. They may not have reliable communication devices in case something goes wrong, or may not realize they should never throw candy or beads from their boat, as fish will eat anything.

Auxiliarists can contribute to making these events safer by contacting the parade organizers or safety officers to share their expertise, and they may also be able to utilize their facilities to help establish and maintain safety zones. Auxiliarists could help get the message to these boaters about the importance of always following State and Federal regulations, maintaining a safe speed and distance from other boats, knowing how elaborate decorations can affect the weight and maneuverability of their boats, and wearing life jackets, especially given the colder air and water temperatures.

Locations and contact information for these parades can be found by entering either state or date at the [www.boatus.com/events](http://www.boatus.com/events) web site.

*[Posted: Nov 29, 2010. Source: Bruce White, BC-BLB]*

- **Annual Plymouth Thanksgiving Parade**

The organizers of the parade believe that, "Our mission is to educate the public while preserving our country's important history, starting with the Pilgrim legacy and Thanksgiving story...". They accomplish this goal by producing a Thanksgiving celebration of excellence in Plymouth, America's Hometown, where Thanksgiving began. Auxiliarists of District 1-NR are an integral part of this celebration and have been for a number of years. Read about the history of this event and how the Auxiliary is represented, now on [SITREP](#), the Auxiliary's National e-magazine.

*[Posted: Nov 28, 2010. Source: Mel Borofsky, Editor SITREP]*

- **N-TRAIN 2011**

The 2011 National Training Conference (**N-Train**) is scheduled for the week of January 23, 2011 in St. Louis, MO. **N-Train** will be held at a new hotel location. The site will be the Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet. Just click on **N-Train** to access the website for this event and view the public schedule

as well as hotel information for making reservations. Deadline for hotel reservations is Monday January 3, 2011 [*Posted: Nov 25, 2010. Source: Martin L. Phillips, Executive Director, CGAuxA*]

- **ICS Requirements for AUXOP**

All AUXOP candidates please note:

The 300 & 400 courses are the Coast Guard version. The DSO-MTs, Sector, or Homeport (Training section of ICS) will be able to tell a member where the advanced classes are being held and who to contact to register.

The advanced classes are:

ICS 346 (Situation Unit Leader).

ICS 347 (Demobilization Unit Leader).

ICS 248 (Resources Unit Leader).

ICS 430 (Operations Section Chief).

ICS 440 (Planning Section Chief).

ICS 351 (Finance Section Chief).

[*Posted: Nov 24, 2010. Source: Dr. R. B. Fong, Sr, DIR-T*]

- **The 2011 VSC Decals are available at ANSC**

We have a Distribution Announcement with instructions that you can download and print from this link: [2011DecalAnnouncement.pdf](#)

And the order form for your FSO-MA or FC to send to ANSC to order your decals which you can get from this link: [VSCFORMNOV-10.pdf](#)

[*Posted: Nov 24, 2010. Source: Lillian M Haines DIR-V*]

- **Recreational Boating Safety featured in Fall 2010 Coast Guard Proceedings**

The fall 2010 issue of the Coast Guard Proceedings is focused on Recreational Boating Safety and Boating Responsibility. The issue includes terrific articles on boating safety initiatives, organizations, and resources. If you are not subscribed to the Proceedings, you can download it by going to the [Coast Guard Proceedings web site](#).

[*Posted: Nov 24, 2010. Source: Bruce Johnson, DIR-B*]

- **Direct Access for STTRs**

Direct Access is now accepting STTRs for the DCAPT, DIR-d AMLOC course at N-TRAIN.

[*Posted: Nov 23, 2010. Source: Dr. R. B. Fong, Sr, DIR-T*]

- **Former Chief Director is an active Auxiliarist**

A former Chief Director of Auxiliary is very active in the Auxiliary and other boating safety organizations. Read the profile of this Auxiliarist and his current endeavors, now on [SITREP](#), the Auxiliary's National e-magazine. [Posted: Nov 23, 2010. Source: Mel Borofsky, Editor SITREP]

- **HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS**

Now is a great time for Auxiliary members to find that special gift for the holiday season. Visit the [District Materials Stores](#) for excellent ideas on Auxiliary oriented products. Click on the District Materials Stores link at the top of the [Shop Auxiliary](#) page then login using your Employee ID (EMPLID) and your Password to view gift ideas. You will find Gifts Under \$10, \$20, \$35 and \$65 to meet your specific needs. Don't delay, shop today for that special gift. [Posted: Nov 22, 2010. Source: Martin L. Phillips, Executive Director, CGAuxA]

- **OCTOBER 2010 BEACON**

The [BEACON](#) is now available for your viewing pleasure. Just click on [BEACON](#) to view this edition.

[Posted: Nov 15, 2010. Source: Martin L. Phillips, Executive Director, CGAuxA]

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## Cutter Mackinaw continues “Christmas Ship” tradition

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2010

Written by: LTJG Stephanie Young

*Post written by Petty Officer 3rd Class George Degener.*



Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw arrives at Navy Pier carrying more than 1,200 Christmas trees destined for deserving Chicago families. The trees were offloaded by volunteers from groups including the Sea Cadets, Sea Scouts and Young Marines before being distributed to families selected by the Ada S. McKinley Community Services organization. U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA3 George Degener.

As the holiday season descends on Chicago and lights and decorations swathe the city streets, a Great Lakes icon sits along the waterfront at [Navy Pier](#).

The [Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw](#), with a Christmas tree tied to its mast and a wreath placed on the superstructure, lies with its decks filled with more than 1,200 fir trees destined for the homes of deserving families in the Chicago area.

In 2000, [the original Mackinaw's](#) crew began collecting Christmas trees from Michigan's Upper Peninsula to bring them south through Lake Michigan to Chicago. After the decommissioning of the first Mackinaw (WAGB 83), the new Mackinaw (WLBB 30) has taken up the tradition started by Capt. Herman Schuenemann, master of the three-masted schooner Rouse Simmons, the original "Christmas Tree Ship" that delivered thousands of trees to Chicago families in the early 1900's. Rouse Simmons foundered and sank near Two Rivers, Wis., on Nov. 23, 1912, with all 17 souls onboard lost.



Volunteers, under direction of Coast Guardsmen and members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, offloaded more than 1,200 Christmas trees from the Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw, destined for deserving Chicago families. U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA3 George Degener.

"The Christmas tree is a symbol of the holiday season that brings thoughts of family and home," said [Rear Adm. Michael Parks](#), commander of the [Ninth Coast Guard District](#). "The fact that the Coast Guard can be part of bringing that symbol to less fortunate families in the Chicago area is truly heartwarming."

Today, [Chicago's Christmas Ship Committee](#) works with the [Coast Guard](#) and [Coast Guard Auxiliary](#) to re-create the celebrated "Christmas Ship." Under the supervision of volunteers from [Marine Safety Unit Chicago](#), Coast Guard Auxiliary and Mackinaw's crew, the trees are loaded into trucks by local youth volunteers, including Sea Cadets, Sea Scouts and Young Marines. Chicago's Ada S. McKinley Community Services selects the tree recipients and then distributes them to families throughout the city.

Mackinaw's crew took time out of their fall buoy run as part of [Operation Fall Retrieve](#), the largest domestic aids-to-navigation operation, and traveled almost the exact same route that Capt. Schuenemann and the Rouse Simmons traveled in the early 1900's. During the journey, Mackinaw crewmembers made a wreath out of branches from the trees and dropped it over the spot where the Rouse Simmons and its crew settled on the bottom of Lake Michigan.



Seaman Lisa Miller, a member of deck force onboard Mackinaw, Cmdr. Scott Smith, Mackinaw's Commanding Officer, Rear Adm. Michael Parks, commander of the Ninth Coast Guard District and Lloyd Karzen, the 2010 chairman of the Christmas Ship Committee, present a tree to a local family. U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA3 George Degener.

"We followed a very similar path and experienced some very similar weather to what Capt. Schuenemann and the sailing vessel Rouse Simmons did on that cold November night in 1912," said [Cmdr. Scott Smith](#), Mackinaw's commanding officer. "It is with great pride that the Coast Guard, including the Marine Safety Unit, the Auxiliary and the Cutter Mackinaw, has been able to partner with the entire Chicago marine community to come together on a project that serves so many deserving families in the Chicago metropolitan area."

In the years that both the old and new Mackinaw have acted as Chicago's Christmas Ship, the Coast Guard has helped to deliver more than 10,000 trees and bring the classic evergreen symbol of the holiday spirit into thousands of homes that would otherwise be without.

The Chicago Christmas Ship Committee has taken their motto from the words of Ruthie Gibson, who as a 4-year-old girl waiting for the Rouse Simmons in 1912, refused to leave the dock, saying, "It just won't be Christmas without a Christmas tree."

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## Video: [National Motor Lifeboat School comes to the East Coast](#)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2010



Post Written by Petty Officer 3rd Class James Rhodes, Public Affairs Specialist

The ocean can be a dangerous place, especially in the North Atlantic. Perhaps you have seen or heard about a sea rescue on the news, or maybe someone you know has been rescued. Chances are, the U.S. Coast Guard was there.

In most cases, these rescues occur in extreme weather conditions. Have you ever wondered how the Coast Guard [trains to operate in these conditions](#)? Well, when it comes to handling a small boat, the [National Motor Lifeboat School](#) in Ilwaco, Wash., is your answer.

To attend the NMLBS typically means students from all over the nation have to travel to Washington State. But, for the first time ever, six instructors from the NMLBS came to their students.



PROVINCETOWN, Mass. – [Click here to watch a video](#) of heavy weather coxswain training being conducted by the National Motor Lifeboat School. This was the first training of its kind on the East Coast. U.S. Coast Guard video by PA3 James Rhodes.

The highly skilled and experienced team conducted a 10-day training course at Coast Guard Station Provincetown in Provincetown, Mass., graduating a new group of heavy coxswains yesterday.

“They were able to teach over a two week period the same curriculum they teach at the NMLBS in Washington at Station Provincetown,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Eric Silvoy, executive petty officer at [Station Provincetown](#). “In essence, this was a satellite school from Cape Disappointment, Wash., taught at Station Provincetown, the first of its kind on the East Coast and in the Coast Guard.”

In the past, it has been challenging for units located on the East Coast to attend the training. With limited personnel, funding and seats in the class, the logistics of getting someone to the school were quite complex.

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## Division and Flotilla Elections

### Division Election

Congratulations to our own John Knipper, and Fred Lange (22-02) on their re-election as Division Commander and Vice Commander.

### Flotilla Election

Congratulations to Bob Kent and Henrietta Schavran on their election to Flotilla Commander and Vice Commander.





## Member Training

### Upcoming Classes

Classes are planned for **Aux Weather** starting on 11 JAN 2011.

Contact [Hank Foglino, SO-MT](#) for details.

**New Boat Crew** classes start 15 MAR 2011.

### AUXCOM:



During the fall, Hank Foglino and Dick Rothamel taught the Division's AUXCOM course. On Tuesday 23 NOV 2010, the AUXCOM Class visited the Coast Guard Station Eaton's Neck and received a presentation by Tony Schwally on the functioning of the Communications Center. This included a description of the equipment in the Comm Center, what and

how it was used for, operational procedures, maintaining a watch, log in requirements, May Day etc. He patiently answered all questions and we all left with a feeling of now I know how the material we learn in class applies to the real world.

Congratulations to Bob Speciale and the other members of Division 22 that successfully completed AUXCOM.

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## Profile– CWO3 Stephen C. Pollock, Commander, Station Eaton Neck

By Tyler Hicks

CWO3 Stephen C. Pollock is Eaton Neck's Station new Commander, and he loves his job. "I love to go to work every day," Steve says with great sincerity. And he's very fond of the Auxiliary. "I just love those people we have on the Station almost daily. They're an enormous help to us." The total roster at Eaton's Neck is 52 people.

Steve became interested in the U.S. Coast Guard at the age of 15. Growing up in Maryland, Steve's parents encouraged his interest in the Coast Guard. They guided him towards the fulfilling career that he has today.

After graduating from high school, Steve enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1993. He did his boot training at the Cape May, NJ Coast Guard facility. Since graduating from boot camp, Steve has served at three Coast Guard Stations—Station Charleston, Saint Inigoes, and Eaton's Neck. He has enjoyed each of these Stations.

Steve has also been on active sea duty during his 17 years in the Coast Guard. He proudly told us he has served on four Coast Guard Cutters—the CGC *Vigorous*, the CGC *Point Glass*, the CGC *Gallatin*, and the CGC *Jarvis*. “Sea time is important in your career,” Steve told us.



While on active sea duty Steve served as boatswain, and later, as Deck Watch Officer on his last three Coast Guard Cutters. Sea duty as a Deck Watch Officer is a maturing experience, Steve says as he laughs. Steve’s ultimate ambition, when he becomes a CWO4, is to command a Coast Guard vessel. “That really tests your ability,” Steve says. “Command is something special, and the best I could do for our country.”

Steve is married and has two children—a 3-year old son, and a recently arrived (about 3 weeks ago) daughter. His wife,

Erin, is very supportive of his Coast Guard career.

Steve’s goal for his tenure at Station Eatons Neck is to earn the public trust while developing great citizen leaders.

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## New AUXOP Requirements

Starting on 01 JAN 2011, the AUXOP program will be revised to consist of core, leadership, and elective credit elements in order to give variety to Auxiliarists, increase practical AUXOP relevance to Coast Guard missions, and better assist the Coast Guard to fulfill needed skill sets.

Under the new program, Auxiliarists will be required to successfully complete a minimum of seven (7) credits from three categories of courses detailed in items (1)-(3) below to receive the AUXOP qualification. This revision will give Auxiliarists more choices to meet program requirements, allow the pursuit of preferred focus areas, and apply credit for ICS training and expertise.[\(more\)](#)

## **AUXOP Program Frequently Asked Questions Sheet**

- **I started the AUXOP program several years ago; can I use those courses for the new AUXOP program?**

- The AUXOP program construct that was based on the successful completion of six specialty courses (AUXWEA, AUXSEA, AUXCOM, AUXSC&E, AUXPAT, AUXNAV) expires on January 1, 2011. Past successful completion of any of those specialty courses, will be recognized for AUXOP credit under the new program construct beginning January 1, 2011.

- **Is the Flotilla Leadership Course, the same as the Flotilla Leadership Academy or the District Flotilla Leadership Course? Will they count towards AUXOP?**

- No, only the Flotilla Leadership Course is permitted for the AUXOPS qualification. Information about the FLC can be found through the Auxiliary Training Directorate website at:  
<http://www.cgaux.org/training/FlotillaCommander.html>

- **Can I use the Coast Guard version of LAMS for the AUXOP qualification?**

- No, only the Auxiliary Leadership and Management School (AUXLAMS) is acceptable for AUXOP credit. AUXLAMS is delivered in resident training as roadshow formats. If taking the roadshow format (which is comprised of two distinct parts, (AUXLAMS-A and AUXLAMS-B), then both parts must be successfully completed for AUXOP credit.

- **How do I get the ICS specialty courses listed for the AUXOP Program?**

- As of January 1, 2011, only the Coast Guard version of ICS 300 & 400 will be accepted for AUXOP program credit. Only the Coast Guard versions of ICS 346/7/8, ICS 430/440 and ICS 351 are acceptable at all for AUXOP program credit.

- The CG ICS specialty courses, ICS 300 & 400, ICS 346/7/8, ICS 430/440 and ICS 351 are in class room courses and not offered on line.

- If you are interested in qualifying in these specialties, you will need to talk to the active duty command and training officer. The active duty would need for you to be qualified in these positions in order to receive the PQS or a billet in the class.

- If you took the FEMA ICS 300 & 400 prior to January 1, 2011, it will count towards the AUXOP pin but you are responsible for all material covered in the CG version if responding to an event.

- **Do I need to complete both the ICS class and the PQS to get credit? What if I complete only one?**

- No, you can complete either the ICS class or the PQS to earn one credit.

- For two credits, you must complete both the ICS class and the PQS.

- You can complete the PQS and sit for the board w/o attending the course to become qualified. You will NOT be qualified if you only complete the class.

- **Do I need to take Initial Indoctrination Marine Safety (IIMS) with the 2010 Introduction to Marine Safety and Environmental Protection**

### **(IMSEP)? What if I completed the old IMSEP?**

- If you have successfully completed the 2010 version of IMSEP, then you do not have to take IIMS.
- If you successfully completed the IMSEP edition that is older than the 2010 edition, then you must complete the IIMS.
- After January 1, 2011, only the successful completion of the 2010 edition of the IMSEP will be accepted for AUXOP program credit.

*[Posted: Dec 7, 2010. Source: Gail Venezia, ANACO-RS]*

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## **Save the Date.....**

The Division Change of Watch will be held 16 JAN 2011 from 1200 – 1600 at the Huntington YC. RSVP to Terry Kinch by 05 JAN 2011.

Semper Paratus!