As I contemplate the information, statistics, and history of this Flotilla, the one thought that comes to mind is that we are all getting older and as we get older, we tend to enjoy our retirement more than we did and are not as active and vibrant as we were in our younger years. Now, before anyone gets mad at what I just said here, I want people to understand that we need to start looking at ways to bring in younger people with energy, resiliency and a desire to make things better. Everyone knows that there are only a handful of people in the Flotilla who try to get everything done and when you only have a few people doing things, it creates a burden upon those people, loss of energy and motivation within the entire group.

I do not profess to have the magic pill to fix this problem, but I know one thing that can help and that is trying to get more active involvement from our newer members and recruiting more members who have a positive attitude. So far this year, we have had three new member applications submitted, but we also have had 10 people who have dropped their membership (due to moving or other personal reasons).

In my position as Flotilla Commander, it is very hard to find people who are willing or have a desire to make our Flotilla better, as an example, we are still in need of a Vice Commander. I will only be allowed to be Commander for two years and then we will need someone who is trained as vice commander to step in. If you look at all the recent changes in the Staff positions, you will see a lot of faces of people who have been here a while and have reached the burnout stage. This situation requires that some of us have to take multiple positions, which is not a good thing to do, as all of us need personal time and it can’t be all about the Flotilla all the time.

In a nutshell what I am trying to say is that each of you can talk to our friends and look for new vibrant people to be solicited for membership and who can Make a difference to make us the best Flotilla in the Division.
APRIL 2015 PHOTOS — FLOTILLA 13-3 ACTIVITIES

Commander Dale Gittings swears in our newest member Linda Henderson, at our April 9, meeting. Welcome to Linda.

Dick McCausland and Don Kittsmiller on water for Crew/coxswain Training in March 2015
Following are the minutes from March 9 meeting which were approved at April 12, meeting: Officer's meeting began at 6:15 with a general discussion of membership & dues, with no action taken.

Regular meeting opened at 7:12 with the pledge of Allegiance led by Commander Gittings. Dewey Jackson was recognized as tonight’s guest, and Jerry Gervasi (a new member) and his wife Joan were welcomed. A motion was made by Martin Mara and accepted by Bob McNamee and vote in favor unanimous.

Motion to increase the dues for Flotilla 13-3 to $50.00 per member was made by Jan Kittsmiller and seconded by Tom Anderson. Vote was unanimous. Bob McNamee brought up that to make our increase in dues official, we must add This to our Standing Rules. After determining that we had a quorum of 23 out of our 87 members, a motion was made by Bob McNamee to add the increase in dues to the Standing Rules and this was seconded by Dick McCausland. Vote was passed with one dissenting vote.

Commander Gittings announced the changes to the Flotilla Staff Officers and thanked all the previous participants for all their hard work in those positions. Dale Gittings will step in for the PA position, Don Kittsmiller as Vessel Examiner, and Virgil Allmond as the Human Resources.

A motion was put forth by Martin Mara to allocate $300.00 for the purchase of a Food Processor for Station Marathon and a second was provided by Bob McNamee. Don Kittsmiller introduced an amendment to the motion to allow up to $500.00 for an outdoor grill for Station Marathon, with a second from Jim Adam. The motion was passed with a majority vote. There was a discussion that we consider a new sound system for the Public Education Program. It was decided that there should be more information from Bob Eichholtz, our FSO-PE before proceeding.

Under new business, Dewey Jackson spoke about the Pollution Control Round Table Discussion. A lot of positive feedback was received. The approval of a Watchstander Class has been granted. The Commissioning of the USCG Ivan Mayo slated for March 28th was announced and Dale advised, to get tickets, contact Dewey. Uniform is Tropical Dress. Commander Gittings announced a planned video presentation at the April meeting and a potential social at Station Marathon in May. Newest member Jerry Gervasi was sworn in as member. An award for 60 hours in 2014 operation hours for Martin Mara was presented. A certificate of Appreciation to George Dunham for dedicated support of the BS&S program. March Rendezvous at Fasano’s was announced. Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Donna Moore and seconded by Bob McNamee. Meeting closed at 8:53 P. M.
Tom Anderson  FSO-MA
Materials
April 2015 Report

We still have a good supply of caps, shirts, belts, buckles Insignias, etc. As usual, I have items with me at each Auxiliary meeting and often at our Rendezvous.

Just call 603-236-1936 if there is anything you would like for me to bring to any of our functions. We will have an inventory of all items in stock by April meeting.

John Rhode FSO-MT
Member Training
April 2015 Report

Members completing training in March 2015 are:
Operations Workshop:
Instructor and Participant— Don Kittsmiller
Form 7015 Security Form completed and submitted:
Nat Ostroff

Dick McCausland  FSO-CM
Communications

Nothing to report in Communications for this month.

Assets:
CD $3,553.00
Savings $6,458.00
Checking $7,735.00
Sub Total Assets $17,166.00
Checks not cleared $580.00
Total Assets $17,166.00

Activity since end March: None

Highlights:
As approved in March 2015 meeting, $802.00 was transferred from checking to savings, thus accomplishing our goal of a $10,000.00 reserve for the Perpetuity of the Flotilla. (Savings + CD)

Our CD was automatically renewed at 0.011%
Dale Gittings  FSO-PA  
Public Affairs
April 2015  Report

Report activities from March, 2015:

US COAST GUARD SUPPORT:

Don Kittsmiller and Dale Gittings held a meeting with FS1 Barry Wildman at Station Marathon to go over related topics and to present Station Marathon with an offer to pick out a commercial food processor that will be used for the Station galley and will be paid for by our Flotilla as a donation.

FLAGS AND CEREMONIES:

No parades or Ceremonies

COMMUNITY SUPPORT:

Finished our last Boating Skills and Seamanship Classes for this season and will be looking at December 2015 for our next class date.

Started work on the National Boating Safety Week.

LOCAL MEDIA INVOLVEMENT:

No activity

PROBLEMS AND SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS:

N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS:
This month, I would like to inform all Auxiliarists and friends of the Auxiliary that there is a Fire Extinguisher Recall. If you have a Kidde Fire Extinguisher with a BLACK PLASTIC VALVE and would like to know if it is on the recall list, contact any of 13-3 Vessel Examiners or myself to verify if your Fire Extinguisher is on this recall. The recalled extinguishers are RED, WHITE or SILVER and are either ABC or BC FIRE RATED.

13-3 completed 49 vessel exams in March, bringing the total to 205 vessel exams so far this year. Exams were conducted at Marinas and private homes in the Cudjoe Key and Sugarloaf Key areas.

Bahia Honda State Park is having their annual Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 25, 2015. Flotilla 13-3 will have our trailer set up for this event. All Vessel Examiners are invited to participate in this annual event.

Flotilla 13-3 is always in need of additional Vessel Examiners and I have all the materials to get you started. “THE COAST GUARD NEEDS OUR HELP”
This past month, Luke Moore was called by Sector Key West for a Pollution Investigation. The call was for a sheen on Flying Cow Rd, Big Pine Key. Luke proceeded to the scene and surmised that someone was cleaning their boat bilge which created a temporary sheen. Luke returned at a later time and found no further trace of the sheen and filled his report with the Coast Guard personnel.

Donna Moore and Linda Henderson combed the mangroves off Big Pine Key for this month’s Coastal Cleanup Campaign. Donna’s team had assistance from friends of the auxiliary, Amy and Karen. Her team picked up 22 large bags of trash, along with numerous other items. Anyone wishing to contribute to this worthy project can contact Donna Moore.
As always, when one takes on an additional job, it is a learning process and an eye opener. It is easy to be complacent when you have been doing a job for a long while and become comfortable in doing that, but as others have already learned, when you take on a new roll, you gotta learn your way around.

For the contact person of the Food Service, I am in the learning process. The cooking part is achievable because we have such a tremendous FS1 at Station Marathon, in the person of Barry Wildman. Station Marathon also now has a new FS, whom I have not yet met, but hope to soon. Also, we always had the nicest mess cooks, to help all of us out.

On Friday, April 3, Tom and Dottie Anderson graciously volunteered to cook at Station Marathon and I think they made a most enjoyable Jambalaya with chicken and sausage. From all reports, all persons partaking of this fare were very satisfied. Thanks to Dottie & Tom for stepping in on this project. We were unable to come up with anyone to help on Friday the 10th, due to previous Doctor appointments and on the Water, QE session to qualify for Crew/Coxswain.

We have an upcoming Sanitation webinar on April 23 which is required for the Food Service Specialists and would be a good idea for all helpers to take also. My computer has crashed, but I can probably find the link for anyone who wants to do this webinar.

I have at least 6 people who would like to help out with the cooking projects and I thank all of you. I will be getting in touch with you about the required Hepatitis shots soon as a date has been set. I would like to thank Diane and Jim for all their hard work in the Food Service and everyone who has volunteered and previously worked to help us with this worthy project.
FOR THE GOOD OF THE FLOTILLA

Just a reminder of the rendezvous tomorrow, April 19 at the home of Bob and Nancy Holum. 954 Flagship, Summerland Key, Florida at 4:00 P. M. For information, call Nancy at 745-4240.

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers Dick McCausland. His son had a very serious accident and is in the hospital for care. I am sure they will Appreciate us remembering them in prayer.

Photo above shows members of Flotilla 13-2 who are using the Officer Snook program to bring information about boating safety to our Elementary School Children in the area. Helping with this Program is Sue Redding and Joann Griffor of 13-2 and our own Gerrie Coady of 13-3. This photo was taken at Sigsbee School in Key West.