As of this writing, the Vessel Examiners of the Big Pine Flotilla, 13-3 have completed 1008 Vessel Safety Examinations so far in 2014. A large tip of the hat to all the Examiners in 13-3 for such a monumental accomplishment.

The Auxiliary Liaison Officer at Station Marathon, BM2 Colt Fairchild had the following to say.... “I have noticed a much lower violation count on the enforcement side of the house, than in previous years and I believe it’s a direct correlation to the vessel examinations that have been done by both the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary”. Thanks to each one of the Vessel Examiners. You will hear more about this later.

We had two boats on patrol at the World Champion Super Boat Races. Dick McCausland took his facility with Tom Anderson and Don Kittsmiller took his facility with Phil Stern and Martin Mara.

Diane Adam and Jo Allmond continue to work hours planning the Change of Watch which is scheduled for 11 December, and it promises to be a wonderful event. We hope all who received an invitation will attend.

Bob Eichholtz has planned and scheduled the three Boating Skills and Seamanship classes for this season and you can find that schedule later in this newsletter. Bob does not like and rarely attends regular meetings so that there is little we can do to recognize him. Bob has spent literally thousands of hours over the last few years making our BS&S classes the best in the Florida Keys. Every year we graduate 60 to 80 people from the classes. Just think about the positive impact Bob has had on boating safety in our Area of Operation. The next time you see Bob, thank him for his contribution.
November 13, 2014, Minutes: Staff Officers meeting opened at 1830. Martin Mara reviewed the mandated procedures for election of Officers.

The regular meeting was called to order at 1900. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Commander Allmond welcomed the following guests and members, Division Commander Elsie Metcalf, Sector Coordinator, Dewey Jackson, John DiPietropaulo, Fran Frederic and Linda Henderson.

Minutes of the October meeting were read and approved as written with a motion from Jan Kittsmiller and seconded by Don Kittsmiller.

Commander Allmond reported that member Robert Raczka will be leaving the flotilla due to declining health and his award for Instructor in Boating Skills and Seamanship, will be mailed to him.

Martin Mara presented the Financial report, noting that only about 40 members are current with their dues and the fee charged to our Flotilla, by the District, is to be increased in 2015 by $2.00. Donna Moore moved that we accept the financial report as given and Bill Downes provided a second, with the motion passing unanimously.

Reports from Staff Officers and Committee Heads were heard and will be included in our November Channel Marker.

Virgil asked for and received volunteers to man a table to be set up at Winn Dixie, for signing up students for our BS&S (Boating Skills and Seamanship) Class beginning December 1, 2014.

Luke Moore, FSO-NS (Navigational System) stated that we needed to do some ATON (aids to navigational) checks and Virgil offered to go out with him before the Change of Watch. December 11, 2014.

Jan requested stronger participation in submission of forms 7029 (99 hours). Sector Coordinator, Dewey Jackson affirmed the need for this. The Auxiliary is a data driven entity and they rely on us to tell them just how much we do to help the Coast Guard. Even miles & (out of pocket expenses) should be entered. They are not reimbursed but still a part of our total contribution. Minutes Continued Page Three.
Minutes for Flotilla 13-3 from page two:

The Selection Committee has brought forth the name of Dale Gittings for Flotilla Commander and Ken Nelson as Vice Flotilla Commander for 2015.

Commander Allmond asked for nominations from the floor for each elected position. He asked for nominations for Flotilla Commander and there were none forthcoming. At that time a motion was made by Doc Stern to close the nominations for Flotilla Commander with a second by Donna Moore and nominations were closed for election of Flotilla Commander.

Commander Allmond then asked for nominations from the floor for Vice Flotilla Commander and none were given. A motion was made by Donna Moore to close nominations for Vice Commander with a second from Dale Gittings and nominations were closed for Vice Commander.

Dewey Jackson, who was asked by Flotilla Commander Allmond to conduct the election, then asked for a verification of the number of members present for a Quorum. It was stated, at that time that we did have 24 members present & the quorum was satisfied. Dewey then asked for acceptance of Dale Gittings for Flotilla Commander for 2015 and the vote was unanimous. The secretary was then instructed to cast one vote for Dale Gittings as the name put forth by the Membership, for Flotilla Commander.

Dewey then asked for a vote on the name of Ken Nelson as Vice Flotilla Commander as presented, and the vote was unanimously in favor. The secretary was then asked to cast one vote for Ken Nelson as the name put forth by the membership for Vice Flotilla Commander.

Martin Mara brought up that we should have a dismissal of the Election Committee and Commander Allmond did so.
Flotilla 13-3 Minutes continued from page three:

Under new business there was discussion of possible contributions for the 2015 Yard Sale. Martin Mara has neighbors who would like to contribute some Furniture which might be very heavy and volunteers were requested for doing the moving of these contributions. If anyone can help with this, please contact Martin Mara.

Martin Mara submitted a motion to allocate $250.00 to Donna Moore for Obtaining some needed supplies for the Beach Clean Up crew. Doc Stern said He would donate a First Aid Kit and there was discussion of the need for Mud Boots. Fran Frederic provided a second for the motion and all were in agreement.

The following awards were presented by Commander Allmond:

Bob Eichholtz (2012) Aux Performance, 10 year Auxiliary Membership and Sustained Service Award
Dick McCausland RBS Device (Recreational Boating Safety)
Tom Anderson Sustained Service (1st & 2nd) Aux Chef Certificate and Commander's Award of Excellence
Dottie Anderson Commander’s Award of Excellence & Aux Chef Certificate
Phil (Doc) Stern Certificate for completion of Patrols (auxop)
Robert Morrow RBS Device (Recreational Boating Safety)

Meeting was adjourned at 2030 after a motion was made by Doc Stern, to close, seconded by Dale Gittings and voted by membership, affirmative.
Above Left: Dick McCausland receives the RBS Device (Recreational Boating Safety)
Above right: Commander Allmond presents Doc Stern with Certificate for Patrols (AUXOP)

Above Left: Commander Allmond presents Recreational Boating Safety Device to Bob Morrow
Above right: Dottie receives her Certificate for Aux Chef (from 2013)

Above Left: Dottie and Tom Anderson receive the Commander’s Award for Excellence
Above right: Bob Eichholtz receives his 5th sustained service award, 10 year membership
And Auxiliary performance award. Photos: Don Kittsmiller AUX.
Dick McCausland  FSO-CM  
Communications  
November 2014 Report

Hi everyone. I am back in the keys and it is good to see you all again. I’ll be leaving the keys at the end of the month and returning after Christmas. By then the following radios will need to be re-inspected: Auxiliary #8, Heinz Kropp, Auxiliary # 2 Don Kittsmiller and Auxiliary 6, Richard McCausland. I will start these inspections in January 2015. If I don’t see you now, I will see you then.

Bob Eichholtz  FSO-PE  
Public Education  
November 2014 Report

Our Boating Skills and Seamanship Schedule is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td>Big Pine Key</td>
<td>Mon &amp; Wed December 1 thru Dec 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venture Out</td>
<td>Cudjoe Key</td>
<td>January 8, BS&amp;S signup &amp; Vessel Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venture Out</td>
<td>Cudjoe Key</td>
<td>BS&amp;S Class; Mon. &amp; Thu Jan 12 &amp; 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wed &amp; Thu Jan 21 &amp; 22</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mon &amp; Thu Jan 26 &amp; 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugarloaf Fire</td>
<td>Sugarloaf</td>
<td>Mon &amp; Wed Feb 23 thru Mar 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, please visit our website at a0701303.wow.uscg.info and select “Boating Safety Classes” (for information about our programs), “Boat Safety Scholarship (information about our scholarship program) or “Public Boating Courses” (national course finder) from the list on the left hand side of the screen.
John Rhode FSO-MT
Member Training
November report

Members completing training in May through October, 2014 are:

2. AUXWEA-Gerry Coady
3. Completed all AUX-PA PQS tasks-Don Kittsmiller
4. Ethics, and Influenza Training- Gerry Coady, Tamera Fletcher, Dale Gittings and Phil Stern.
5. Sexual Assault Prevention, Prevention of Sexual Harassment Courses- Tamera Fletcher, Dale Gittings, Robert McNamee and Phil Stern.
6. Civil rights Awareness, Suicide Prevention, Privacy Awareness, Security And Education Training Awareness-Tamera Fletcher, Robert McNamee And Phil Stern.
8. Flotilla Leadership, AUXCOM, and AUXPAT- Phil Stern.
10. Completed requirements for TCT/AUX (Team Coordination Training Instructor- Robert McNamee).

Tom Anderson FSO-MA
Materials
November Report

I have retrieved all of our materials from Don and Jan Kittsmiller and currently have some of the more requested items with me at the Flotilla meetings. See me after the meeting, if there are items you need; or call my cell 603-236-1936 and I will arrange to get them to you.
Photos from Key West International Boat Races 11-7, 11-9

Above Left: Coxswain Dick McCausland on Frail Whale with Tom Anderson as crew.
Above Right: Aux Facilities get set up alongside Coast Guard Vessels for Boat races.

Above photo: One of the Souped up Power Boats from the Key West International Powerboat Race, 11-9-14. Photos: Don Kittsmiller AUX
The statistics up until the end of October, 2014 are absolutely Amazing AGAIN!! Our VE Teams accomplishments show dedication to the importance of Boating Safety. Congratulations!

Vessel Examinations given as of November 1, 2014 970  
Vessel Exams given in October 56 (42 paddlecraft)  
Total Vessel Exams passed 885  
Percentage passed 89.2

I sincerely hope and wish our entire VE team will join me at the Change of Watch on December 11, 2014. As FSO-VE, I would like to thank all of you in front of our many guests.

FOR SAFETY’S SAKE, VOLUME VII, ISSUES 3, FALL 2014  
New Application for Paddle Boaters!

From this issue's article entitled: Staying on Track: PWC Vessel Safety Check Manual (COMDTINSTM16796.8) Chapter 2, Page 9: “A decal shall be awarded upon successful completion of the VSC. The VE shall ensure it is affixed immediately by the operator in the presence of the Vessel Examiner. It shall be affixed in a location that will not interfere with or obstruct the operator's view and be readily visible to authorities, while underway. This is normally on the lower forward corner of a portside window or lower corner on the port side of the windshield. If no window is available, it may be affixed to the dashboard or the back of a seat. It should only be affixed to permanently installed equipment.

When conducting a Vessel Safety Examination of paddleboats, in addition to reminding owners to affix the vessel identification sticker for canoes, Kayaks and rowboats, you may wish to draw their attention to the Paddleboat App mentioned above.
From May until November, Ken Nelson has enlisted the help of the Auxiliary Food Service designees to assist with food preparation at the USCG, Station Marathon Galley. What is amazing is the fact that, in the cases where Ken could not solicit help, He handled all the tasks himself!

I want to thank Ken for his dedication to this program, as well as Don Kittsmiller and Donna Ferenci (FC Flotilla 13-02). As others in our Food Service program return for the season, We should have additional volunteers.

Diane and Michael Bloch cooked last week and Diane and I will cook tomorrow (11-14-14).

There are still a few of the AUX FS team, in our Flotilla that need to complete their sanitation refresher course. All of these members have plans to make the deadline for this training. Good job to all of our members who have completed the requirement.

There are many changes at Station Marathon as last spring’s Projects are now an integral part of the Galley. The storeroom, with its new paint and shelving keeps food organized and sanitary. The former rest-room was transformed into an office for the FS-1. The new range and oven has made the cooking less challenging. The newly arranged galley now gives us a larger prep area. As well as a more efficient use of space.

The biggest change is in the Food Service Staff. FS-1 Barry Wildman Is an enthusiastic Chef. He believes in preparing meals with fresh Ingredients, even making his own Pasta. Until an FS-2 comes along, breakfast and lunch are the only meals served. FS-1 Wildman was trained at the Culinary Institute of America. Meals are spiced with fresh herbs and vegetables. FS wants to create his own herb garden!
Rendezvous “One of our Five Cornerstones for support of the USCG Auxiliary”. 36 of our members and friends from other Flotillas enjoyed a complete thanksgiving dinner with two Turkeys, Ham and many homemade Complimentary dishes. November 16, 2014! Fellowship is important!

Above left: In foreground, Kathy Fasano and Kathy DiPietropaolo are listening while Commander Allmond welcomes everyone. In background are Jo Allmond, Don and Arlene Way, Dick McCausland Jan Kittsmiller, Tom Anderson, John & Donna Rhode. Above Right: Don & Arlene Way with Michael Bloch. Table to right are Nancy and Nat Ostroff from Flotilla 13-1.

Above Left: Diane Adam, Jay Vencevick, Nancy Bloch and Linda Henderson (newest member). Above Right: Fran Fredric and a visiting friend, Bonnie.

Above Left: Luke Moore is shown overlooking all the food choices of our partygoers. Above Right: Marty Mara and Donna Moore enjoy some conversation at get together. Photos: Don Kittsmiller AUX
United States Coast Guard Support: Designed new Boating Skills & Seamanship Flyer and printed over 200 flyers for distribution. Conducted 56 Vessel Examinations this month, 970 through end of October. Sent out news releases for Boating Skills and Seamanship Course. Flotilla 13-3 and 13-2 cooked meals for USCG Station Marathon personnel on October 7 thru 10, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday. Had one Pollution call out on Summerland Key, October 2014.

Flags and Ceremonies: Don’s Award Corner is done monthly in Big Pine Key Channel Marker Newsletter. This month was the RBS Device Criteria.

Community Support: Donna Moore and her Coastal Clean Up Team attacked the Mangroves off Long Beach on Big Pine Key. As of October, Donna & Team had over 20 hours of beach cleaning, resulting in 18 bags of trash. The Team so far this year has approximately 108 man hours and 191 bags of trash. In October, the team included Ken Nelson, Katy McCarthy, Diane Adam and Michael Bloch.

Local Media Involvement: Prepared and sent out releases for Boating Skills Class and Scholarship Program.
RBS DEVICE AWARD CRITERIA
EFFECTIVE 22 January 2010

1. The Auxiliary Recreational Boating Safety Device (RBS Device) recognizes extraordinary effort of Auxiliarists who consistently provide strong support to RBS programs. Its eligibility criteria require significant RBS program activity over a minimum period of two years. Eligibility criteria are as follows:

2. Compilation of 120 points per year for two consecutive years (for a total of 240). Hours for prescribed mission codes are reported on Mission Activity Report (ANSC 7030). Vessel Safety Checks (VSC) are reported on the form (7038). RBS program visits are reported on (7046).

3. Public Education: Hours recorded using any mission code 14. 1 point - per hour as Lead Instructor and 0.5 points per hour as an assistant/aide.

4. Public Affairs: Activities promoting RBS in the following areas, 1 point per hour limited to actual mission hours.

   Speech/Talks, mission code 10B
   Broadcast Media, mission code 10C
   External Print Media, mission code 10F
   COMREL, mission code 10J

5. Vessel Safety Checks and Vessel Facility Inspections: Based on the number of VSCs/Facility inspections. 1 point per check or inspection.

6. RBS Program Visitation: Based on the number of RBS Program visits. 1 point per visit.

7. Legislative Outreach: Hours recorded as Federal/State Legislative Outreach or government Affairs work, mission codes 65A or 65B. 1 point per hour.

8. State RBS Outreach: Hours recorded in meetings with a state BLA or State BLA staff, mission code 65C. 1 point per hour.