



# The Helm

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
FLOTILLA 24-12  
OXFORD, CONNECTICUT

## Upcoming

### Events in the Flotilla

- September Flotilla Meeting: **Sept. 13.** at the Flotilla Base American Legion Oxford  
Uniform: Tropical Blue or ODU Member Training: Inflatable PFD
- Division Meeting September 5th at 1930
- ABS Aug. 25, 0800
- Paddle Craft: Sept. 8 0800-1200
- ABS Sept. 15, 0800
- COMMS PQS Sept. 17th Time TBA



Still do not have any guesses!

### 3 Hints

Martha's Vineyard (near)

Fl R 6s \_\_\_\_\_.

A ferry departs from New Bedford bringing mail, groceries, and eager tourists.



Hang in there!! Only a few more weeks until our next flotilla meeting

CAPE MAY, N.J. – A member of Coast Guard Recruit Company Yankee 186 hangs on to a log while tackling Training Center Cape May's Confidence Course Aug. 3, 2012. The log is part of an obstacle known at the "Leap of Faith," which requires the recruits to jump several feet, grab a hold of the log and roll over it. Coast Guard photo by Chief Warrant Officer Donnie Brzuska.

# Meet the Flotilla Officers

Hope all are enjoying their summer!

Any cool boating pictures you may have, I may be interested in adding to the monthly publication - especially the Identify This photo

## Meet the Staff

**FC**– Bob Bowlick

**VFC**– Karl Sieling

**FSO – CS** Bob Camara

**FSO – FN** Jim Walsh

**FSO – HR** Jose Neves

**FSO – IS** Bob Camara

**FSO-MA** Jim Walsh

**FSO – MT** Bob Bowlick

**FSO – PA** Jacqueline O'Neill

**FSO – PB** David Genest

**FSO – PE** Bob Bowlick

**FSO – PV** Vacant

**FSO – VE** Jim Walsh



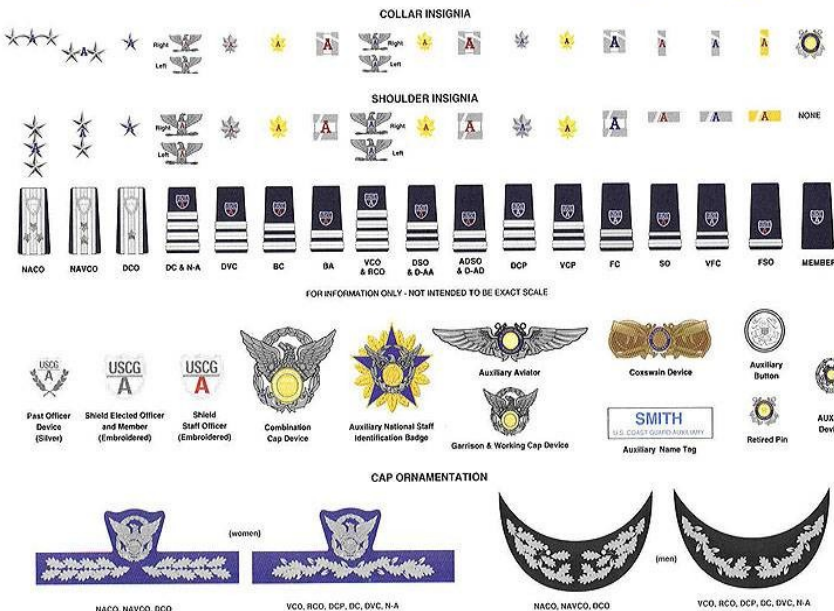
## Commander's Comments

Commandant Bob Papp recently stated in his August 4<sup>th</sup> address on the 222<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the United States Coast Guard “Proficiency in craft, proficiency in leadership, disciplined initiative-these are the anchors upon which we will hold fast...”

In many instances Auxiliary members and flotillas have not and cannot attain those attributes because of two very important ingredients, *desire and commitment*. An Auxiliary unit is comprised of volunteers that must balance a *desire* to serve the Auxiliary with *commitments* to family and career. Consequently, in many instances, a member's *commitment* to the Auxiliary never reaches the member's level of *desire*. So let's step back and approach the balancing act from a different angle.

The flotilla is equal to the sum of all the achievements of the individual members. The three fundamental achievements for a member are completion of the Auxiliary Procedures Course (APC) followed by ICS 100 and ICS 700. These can be accomplished at home during the quiet time after family commitments are satisfied. The three fundamental achievements improve the members understanding of the Auxiliary and will prepare the member for working with the Coast Guard, FEMA and the Auxiliary during emergencies and will prepare the member for elected office.

## Authorized US Coast Guard Auxiliary Insignia



Moving to the operational level, the member has a number of choices to achieve proficiency in a qualification of their choice. The easiest qualification to attain is that of a program visitor. Again, this is a self-study, at home activity that can be acquired during those quiet times at home. The next step up the ladder is the vessel examiner qualification, another home study activity. Instructor qualification requires a commitment to public education and requires attendance at PE classes in addition to home study. All qualifications are attainable when taken one small increment at a time.

Each member qualification, vessel exam, hour spent teaching, hour of boat crew or program visit adds to the overall achievement of the flotilla. Remember, “The USCG Auxiliary is not a spectator sport”.

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## 2012 Elected Officers

FC: Robert Bowolick

VFC: Karl Sieling

## Editor

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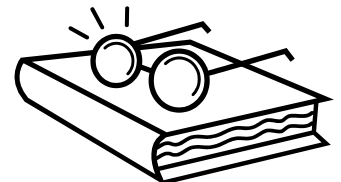
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Unless otherwise noted, photos are from David Genest FSO- PB

I wonder where this goes... <http://www.setauketyc.com/CruiseGuide/cuttyhunk/cuttyhunk-8.jpg> Remember any of the links in *The Helm* are clickable.

## Summary of Changes to the Auxiliary Manual



WASHINGTON- Since promulgation of the Auxiliary Manual (COMDTINST M16790.1G) approximately one year ago, many aspects of the Auxiliary policies described in it have been subject of review for purposes of revision and update. The attached PDF file contains chapter-by-chapter, section-by-section descriptions of changes to the Auxiliary Manual that are effective immediately (its first three pages provide a snapshot summary of the sections of the manual that have been changed). These changes center around updates to Auxiliary organizational structure and administrative processes. They will be incorporated into the next promulgated change to the Auxiliary Manual anticipated in 2013.

These changes can be found at: <http://www.uscg.mil/auxiliary/>

There is also an annotated manual at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg3/cg3pcx/publications/comdtinst/default.asp>

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