



"Get Me in This Thing..." - Joining the US Coast Guard Auxiliary

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In the days that followed September 11, 2001, those words kept running through my head... What could I do that would be something more concrete than writing a check to the Red Cross? While many Americans turned to volunteerism in order to put their hearts, hands and minds at work, I was faced with two realities - at nearly 48, I wasn't exactly what the Army Recruiter at Times Square in New York had as #1 on his list of potential (or wanted) candidates and, secondly, it was apparent that the terrorists were seriously dedicated to wiping out as many Americans as possible. The unthinkable - suddenly - became thinkable. "Terrorists are coming here to kill my wife and kids" kept running through my mind...

I suppose I could have fallen into a mental "Maginot Line" at that point - board up the windows, form caches of water, medicines and food and just keep peering over the ramparts - and hope they never came...

A friend in the US military advised me to "Do something you love... many school-age children wanted to be firefighters or police officers when they were kids... go volunteer to help them..." So, I thought about it - beyond family, nation and our God above, what do I love...? The sea spread out before my mind's eye...

So, I turned to the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, an integral part of the United States Coast Guard Forces. I submit that it is among the most effective ways to "get in this thing..." If you live, work or summer "out east" on Long Island, please read on.

Over two hundred years ago, Richard "Light Horse" Harry Lee, one of George Washington's commanders and, ironically, the father of Robert E. Lee, coined the immortal saying about George Washington himself - "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." The key about an auxiliary is that they are neither for war nor for peace but are all about being for America. The Auxiliary is a creature of the Congress itself.

Congress established the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary in 1939 to assist the Coast Guard in promoting boating safety. It boasts more than 35,000 members from all walks of life who receive special training so that they may be a functional part of Coast Guard Forces.

Today the Auxiliary plays a larger role with greater responsibilities than at any other time in history. Auxiliarists are at the helm of Marine safety and

security patrols, serving as foreign language interpreters, educating the public on recreational boating safety, and supporting many other vital operational and administrative missions. Last year, they saved 257 lives, assisted 10,485 others, volunteered over 440,000 hours in support of Coast Guard operations and more than 69,000 hours educating the recreational boating public.

The Auxiliary, like any large organization, has an organization - there is a national level, a district level, a divisional level and, ultimately, the flotilla level. The flotilla is where the rubber meets the road or, better put, where the hull meets the waves.

All members join the Auxiliary by joining a local flotilla and that is where the real work gets done - everything from Crew Augmentation on USCG sea-going vessels to helping out in the mess hall at a duty station. And, there couldn't be a better time to join as USCG Auxiliary Division 18 (essentially, eastern Long Island) is in the midst of a concerted recruitment campaign..!

Do you need a boat to join? Absolutely not! We'll train you to become a certified crewmember. However, if you have one and want to get it certified as an "Operational Facility", you one day could find yourself leading a patrol as coxswain on the deck of your own vessel with a crew under your responsibility.

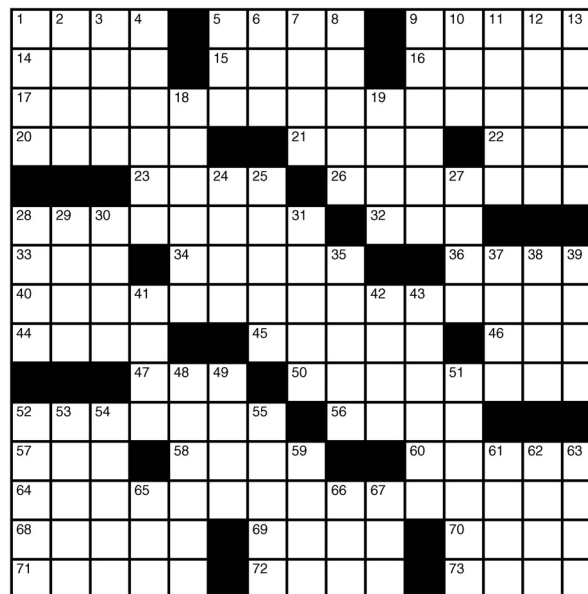
Do you need to know how to swim to join? Again, no! There are many jobs within the USCG Auxiliary that are wholly land-based - public education, public affairs, radio watch standing at a USCG Coast Guard station or helping out as a mechanic at the motor pool. You don't even have to like the water... you just have to want "get in this thing" and do something for your nation.

It has been said that this will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.

Be brave. Get in this thing. Email me at USCGAUX2006@aol.com or go direct to MaryJo Cruickshank, who is charge of new members matters, at FSO-PS@emcg.us and we will help you "get in this thing..."

Moriches Inlet Tide Table June 40.7650°N, 72.7533° W

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High
Fri 1		1:55 AM/0.10 ft	7:56 AM/2.67 ft	1:47 PM/0.36 ft	8:05 PM/3.41 ft
Sat 2		2:36 AM/0.08 ft	8:35 AM/2.65 ft	2:27 PM/0.38 ft	8:41 PM/3.37 ft
Sun 3		3:16 AM/0.08 ft	9:16 AM/2.62 ft	3:07 PM/0.41 ft	9:20 PM/3.32 ft
Mon 4		3:55 AM/0.10 ft	10:00 AM/2.61 ft	3:46 PM/0.45 ft	10:05 PM/3.26 ft
Tue 5		4:35 AM/0.13 ft	10:50 AM/2.64 ft	4:29 PM/0.50 ft	10:55 PM/3.20 ft
Wed 6		5:18 AM/0.16 ft	11:42 AM/2.72 ft	5:21 PM/0.56 ft	11:49 PM/3.13 ft
Thu 7		6:07 AM/0.18 ft	12:35 PM/2.85 ft	6:26 PM/0.59 ft	
Fri 8	12:44 AM/3.06 ft	7:03 AM/0.17 ft	1:28 PM/3.01 ft	7:41 PM/0.55 ft	
Sat 9	1:42 AM/2.99 ft	8:03 AM/0.13 ft	2:24 PM/3.20 ft	8:52 PM/0.42 ft	
Sun 10	2:43 AM/2.92 ft	9:01 AM/0.06 ft	3:23 PM/3.39 ft	9:55 PM/0.23 ft	
Mon 11	3:48 AM/2.89 ft	9:56 AM/-0.01 ft	4:23 PM/3.58 ft	10:54 PM/0.04 ft	
Tue 12	4:53 AM/2.92 ft	10:51 AM/-0.07 ft	5:21 PM/3.74 ft	11:51 PM/-0.11 ft	
Wed 13	5:54 AM/2.97 ft	11:45 AM/-0.09 ft	6:16 PM/3.86 ft		
Thu 14		12:46 AM/-0.22 ft	6:50 AM/3.03 ft	12:40 PM/-0.09 ft	7:07 PM/3.89 ft
Fri 15		1:40 AM/-0.29 ft	7:43 AM/3.05 ft	1:34 PM/-0.06 ft	7:57 PM/3.84 ft
Sat 16		2:31 AM/-0.29 ft	8:36 AM/3.03 ft	2:27 PM/0.00 ft	8:48 PM/3.72 ft
Sun 17		3:20 AM/-0.24 ft	9:30 AM/2.98 ft	3:16 PM/0.11 ft	9:39 PM/3.54 ft
Mon 18		4:06 AM/-0.13 ft	10:24 AM/2.92 ft	4:04 PM/0.26 ft	10:31 PM/3.34 ft
Tue 19		4:51 AM/0.01 ft	11:17 AM/2.87 ft	4:52 PM/0.43 ft	11:22 PM/3.14 ft
Wed 20		5:36 AM/0.16 ft	12:08 PM/2.84 ft	5:43 PM/0.60 ft	
Thu 21	12:10 AM/2.94 ft	6:23 AM/0.31 ft	12:56 PM/2.83 ft	6:40 PM/0.72 ft	
Fri 22	12:57 AM/2.76 ft	7:12 AM/0.42 ft	1:43 PM/2.84 ft	7:42 PM/0.78 ft	
Sat 23	1:45 AM/2.60 ft	8:02 AM/0.48 ft	2:30 PM/2.88 ft	8:42 PM/0.75 ft	
Sun 24	2:34 AM/2.48 ft	8:51 AM/0.51 ft	3:18 PM/2.93 ft	9:36 PM/0.66 ft	
Mon 25	3:28 AM/2.41 ft	9:37 AM/0.51 ft	4:07 PM/3.01 ft	10:26 PM/0.54 ft	
Tue 26	4:25 AM/2.40 ft	10:21 AM/0.48 ft	4:56 PM/3.12 ft	11:13 PM/0.42 ft	
Wed 27	5:19 AM/2.44 ft	11:07 AM/0.45 ft	5:42 PM/3.23 ft		
Thu 28		12:01 AM/0.30 ft	6:08 AM/2.52 ft	11:52 AM/0.41 ft	6:24 PM/3.33 ft
Fri 29		12:47 AM/0.19 ft	6:52 AM/2.59 ft	12:38 PM/0.36 ft	7:05 PM/3.42 ft
Sat 30		1:32 AM/0.09 ft	7:34 AM/2.66 ft	1:24 PM/0.32 ft	7:44 PM/3.47 ft



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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bologna eight
 - 5 Open a crack
 - 9 Stock unit
 - 14 Felt regret
 - 15 Trunk
 - 16 Peeled
 - 17 Film featuring Sally Field as a journalist
 - 20 Rodeo rope
 - 21 Shred
 - 22 Bask
 - 23 Breeder horse
 - 26 Winter apples
 - 28 Mr. Fixit
 - 32 Zodiac sign
 - 33 King topper
 - 34 Conduit
 - 36 Pakistani language
 - 40 Film featuring Denzel Washington as a journalist
 - 44 Alone
 - 45 I want in!
 - 46 __ Zedong
 - 47 Natl. network
 - 50 Abridges
 - 52 Reddish rash
 - 56 Automaker Ferrari
 - 57 Simian
 - 58 Seniors' org.
 - 60 Small antelope
 - 64 Film featuring Drew Barrymore as a journalist
 - 68 Love of money
 - 69 Okinawa port
 - 70 Texas crock
 - 71 British peers
 - 72 Accomplice
 - 73 Hardens
 - 29 Canyon's reply?
 - 30 Strip
 - 31 Tries to outrun
 - 35 Wood-shaping machine
 - 37 Coleridge poem, "The __ of the Ancient Mariner"
 - 38 College VIP
 - 39 Vehicles for E.T.s
 - 41 Roman Catholic leader
 - 42 High time?
 - 43 Russian wolfhound
 - 48 Wood planks
 - 49 Thick slice
 - 51 Trunks
 - 52 Extent covered
 - 53 Soap or horse follower
 - 54 Break off
 - 55 Showplace
 - 59 Ring
 - 61 __ Royale, MI
 - 62 Sam Browne or Van Allen
 - 63 Lupino and Tarbell
 - 65 Slippery fish
 - 66 Org. of Capitals and Senators
 - 67 Round Table knight
- DOWN**
- 1 Verbal
 - 2 Big, band tote
 - 3 Hardy heroine
 - 4 Black Sea port
 - 5 "Spin City" network
 - 6 Regular guy
 - 7 Oodles
 - 8 Pass on (to)
 - 9 Widely scattered
 - 10 Actor Holbrook
 - 11 Crop up
 - 12 Slice again
 - 13 Idyllic gardens
 - 18 Observe
 - 19 Sledgehammer
 - 24 River to the Caspian Sea
 - 25 Jeans material
 - 27 Excessively acid
 - 28 Curses!

See Solution on Page 8