



# THE HELM

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
FLOTILLA 24-12  
OXFORD, CONNECTICUT  
OCTOBER 2012

## Upcoming

### Events in Flotilla 24-12

- October 20— ABS Class 0800-1700. Uniform is Tropical Blue. Members are strongly encouraged to help the instructors with presentations.
- October 22nd Fall Fellowship Dinner at Anthony's Oceanview.
- November 8th Flotilla Meeting 1900 hours at the Flotilla Base— Uniform: Tropical Blue or ODU. **This is also the Flotilla Election.** It is strongly encouraged that you attend— nothing in the auxiliary is mandatory!
- November 8th Member Training— Follows Business Meeting. We will be setting the 2013 flotilla calendar.
- December 13th Change of Watch/ Christmas Party—Time and Location TBA

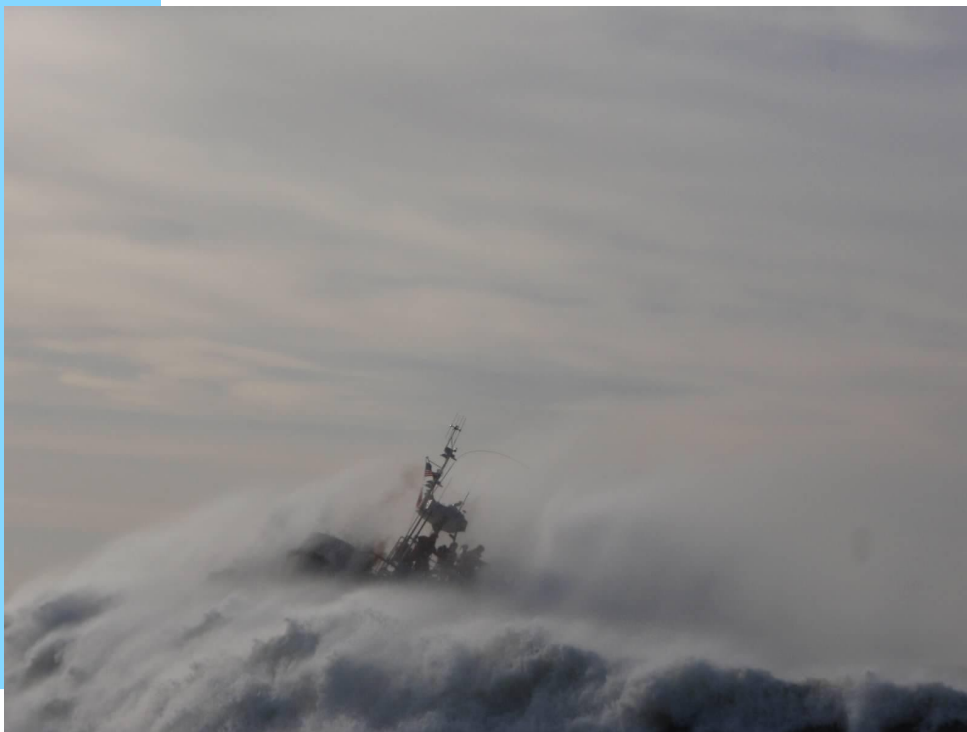


The election committee finalizing their details to present to the flotilla.

Lynn Wilson and Terry Bogue

### Flotilla Elections are Nov. 8th

## October Meeting



“No, you are not seeing things... This is a Coast Guard 47-foot motor lifeboat engulfed by a wave during surf training at Station Cape Disappointment, Wash.”

(USCG Official Facebook Page)

Think I saw something somewhere about smooth seas not making skilled mariners— I wonder if this is a slight chop for these guys?

# Uniform Refresher

This is to serve as a refresher for many of the older members– and a little information on some of the most commonly used uniforms in the Auxiliary. You would think the folks in the illustrations would look a little happier...

## Tropical Blue Uniform



- Recommended 'first buy' uniform.
- This uniform (as well as the 'blue blazer') is acceptable for all Auxiliary functions.
- Name tag is worn centered over the right breast pocket.
- V-Neck tee shirt must be worn.
- Black socks and shoes
- The belt buckle, shirt and zipper flap must line up in a straight line – kind of a pain but easy when you get the hang of it.
- Garrison or combination cap.

## Useful Links

- Uniform Procurement guide (allll the details)- <http://hdept.cgaux.org/pdf/UPGMay2012.pdf>
- AuxMan (chapter 10)- [http://www.uscg.mil/directives/cim/16000-16999/CIM\\_16790\\_1G.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/directives/cim/16000-16999/CIM_16790_1G.pdf)
- UDC (USCG uniforms)- [www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/udc/](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/udc/)
- Bent Needle (name tapes etc)- <http://www.thebentneedle.com/>
- Vanguard- (ribbons, shoulder boards)- [www.vanguardmil.com/store/](http://www.vanguardmil.com/store/)

*Iconic clothing has been secularized. A guardsman in a dress uniform is ostensibly an icon of aggression; his coat is red as the blood he hopes to shed. Seen on a coat-hanger, with no man inside it, the uniform loses all its blustering significance and, to the innocent eye seduced by decorative color and tactile braid, it is as abstract in symbolic information as a parasol to an Eskimo. It becomes simply magnificent.*

*[Angela Carter](#)*

## ODU– Operational Dress



- May be worn when authorized
- Worn untucked– NB the tucked ODU is still acceptable, until it is no longer serviceable.
- You may wear either ball cap or boonie cap with sliver lettering.
- Name centered on the right with the tape extending the length of the pocket. USCG Auxiliary on the left.
- Black boots for general wear, boat shoes are acceptable when on board vessels.
- Use blousing bands to blouse the legs over the tops of the boot.
- Tucking the legs into the boots is also acceptable

# October Flotilla Meeting Notes



Cruizin' on Lake Zoar—Wonder if they Passed a VE?

Photo: Jaci O'Neill

Be sure to keep track of and submit your hours involved in Auxiliary related 'stuff

Reading this newsletter counts!

Here is the link to the 7029 Web form- <http://webforms.cgaux.org/>

Use your ID to log in or create a new account to generate a report, submit it at the end of every month

It would be great to see more of the flotilla membership attend meetings in their uniforms; it projects an image of unity and oneness. Frequently newer members do not see the use or importance in why it is necessary to wear them.

Six members and two guests present.

## Commanders Comments & Announcements

- The Division Bridge was elected to a second term. (Kim Fillion CDR and Mark Bennett VCDR)
- The election of flotilla officers for 2013 will take place during the November meeting. Preparing the flotilla calendar for 2013 will replace member training. The flotilla calendar is integrated into the Legion calendar to avoid schedule conflicts.
- Fall Fellowship Dinner for SLIS-N is planned for October 22, 2012. Flyers have been e-mailed.
- The annual Flotilla Commander Academy will be held at the USCG Academy November 30 thru December 2 for newly elected commanders.
- The winter dress blue uniform is authorized starting November 1.
- The Division has three new AUXOP proctors. Ginny Daniels 24-08, Russ Kniehl 24-11, Bob Bowolick 24-12
- Personal Protective Equipment is available from the OTO.

September minutes approved

## Staff Reports

**FSO – CM, FSO-CS, FSO-FN, FSO-IS, FSO-MA, FSO-OP** No reports

**FSO – HR** New member inquiry. Wilfredo Erba has been invited to the flotilla meeting. Joe Skibek has requested and was dis-enrolled from the Auxiliary.

### FSO – MT

- One member actively pursuing Program Visitor qualification and another starting the PV process.
- One member working on the telecommunication PQS.
- Members interested in becoming instructor, vessel examiner or program visitor qualified are invited to contact the FSO-MT for assistance in becoming qualified. All members should be qualified in at least one of the many areas of opportunity available.
- Members should seriously consider APC, ICS 100 & ICS 700 certification.
- The FSO-MT is open to suggestions for member training topics for 2013. The following are being considered for 2013; Uniforms, Flotilla procedures Manual, Sexual Harassment, Nautical Charts, Qualification requirements for Instructor, VE, PV, Boat Crew, AUXOP

**FSO – PA** Media notified

**FSO – PB** Another edition of The Helm went out the other day, and will begin working on the October one shortly. I will be distributing the Boat Basin

publication to flotilla members, allowing for wider distribution since there is a constant influx of new members. As always I strongly encourage other FSOs to provide pictures and stories relevant to their positions.

### FSO – PE

- Our September ABS class had six students. The October 20<sup>th</sup> class will be the last class of the year.
- Flotillas 24-02 and 24-03 are aggressively advertising their ABS classes in this area. We need to be more aggressive in our advertising and we should consider reducing our class fee.

**FSO – PV** Vacant.....Is there a member interested in taking on the task?

**FSO – VE** No activity. IS not up to date.

### Committee Reports

Screening committee has completed their task. Karl Sieling has been selected to serve as flotilla commander and Bob Bowolick to serve as VFC. Both members meet the qualification requirements to serve in their elected office.

### Old Business

Flotilla Change of Watch and flotilla Christmas party on December 13, 2012 was discussed. The consensus is to have a Change of Watch combined with a Christmas party at a restaurant or banquet facility. Invitations will be extended to the Lake Zoar Authority and selected Auxiliary leaders. Jaci O'Neill will investigate possible locations.

### New Business

None

### Awards & Presentations

Recipients were not available to receive awards.

### Good and Welfare

None

### Adjourn to member training

**Member Training:** Radio Facilities and TCO-PQS

*“The FSO-MT is open to suggestions for member training topics for 2013.”*



Deploying containment boom- <http://bit.ly/Q4WnVA>

This would be a great time to have the FSO-MT help you explore an area of interest or confusion- and allow the whole flotilla to benefit from that.



## Happily jetting around Lake Zoar

Photo— Jaci O'Neill

# Dates to Remember and Things to Enjoy

- October 22nd, CG SLIS Fall Fellowship Dinner— email FC for the flyer regarding this enjoyable fellowship experience!
- Saturday, 20 October — Auxiliary Tail Gate Party, Yale Bowl, New Haven
- Saturday, 20 October — Radio Day at Jones Beach; 0800-1600
- Monday, 22 October — Fall Fellowship Dinner
- Saturday & Sunday, 3 & 4 November — AUX CHEF Training; SECLIS Galley; 0700-1600— Contact FSO-MT for info
- 4 November — Veterans Day Parade, Hartford
- Friday, 30 November to Sunday 2 December — District Leadership Conference
- Thursday, 13 December— Flotilla 24-12 Change of Watch and Christmas Party



Find us on  
**Facebook**

## Sound Off

The Change of Watch/ Christmas party is almost upon us! It is hard to believe that we are already thinking of that time of year but we must begin planning. The FC would like to have you RSVP with your interest in attending. The date would be 13 December, the 2nd Thursday of the month. - [rlbowlick@charter.net](mailto:rlbowlick@charter.net)



There are no set hours, or location as of yet—if you are interested in planning or assisting the committee, please email Jaci O'Neill— [interpreter4u@hotmail.com](mailto:interpreter4u@hotmail.com)

## Flotilla Jackets— Still Available

The jacket is a lined nylon windbreaker embroidered with the Auxiliary logo and Flotilla 24-12. The jacket is similar in look to the Auxiliary uniform windbreaker.

The jacket can be purchased for \$35 at Blanchette Sporting Goods, 425 Bridgeport Avenue, Shelton, CT 06484. Telephone number 203-929-6331.

There is an additional \$5 charge if you want your name embroidered on the right side.

When contacting Blanchette mention the jacket is for the US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 24-12.

## Public Education

The September Class had six participants— which is indicative of another boating season coming to a close.

Instructors— be sure to be ready to answer any question— you may never be ready for all of them!

## Flotilla Elections

The requirements for VFC are APC, ICS 100 & 700, currently qualified as IT, VE, Ops, etc. The requirements for FC are APC, ICS 100 & 700 currently qualified as IT, VE, Ops, etc., plus one year as VFC. According to the standing rules, nominations will be accepted from the floor.

# Official Publication of Flotilla 24-12 First District (SR)

## 2012 Elected Officers

FC: Robert Bowolick

VFC: Karl Sieling

## Editor

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

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At the helm- (no not the newsletter- I wish I could write these there!!)

In control, on course, clear skies, and calm seas—you cant see the giant smile on the other side :)