



DIRAUX NOTES FOR APRIL 2014

FROM THE DESK of CDR Chappelka, District 13 Director of Auxiliary

Over my Coast Guard career I have always made a point of reviewing the Summary of Mishaps Messages that come out several times a month. These sometimes funny, sometime tragic messages relate how members of the military have injured themselves recently. Good lessons learned:

- Never throw you keys to someone. They have a tendency to jab into hands, cheeks and eyes.
- Do not have your hands in your pockets while walking up and down stairs.
- Treat every gun as if it is loaded.
- If shipmates or family members start expressing concern about how you are using a ladder it is time to come down.
- Do not try to impress your loved ones or friends by doing pull ups or head stands on hotel balconies.
- Take the motorcycle safety course before you go on that 100 mile cruise with your new or a borrowed bike.
- Don't try to drive 500 miles in a night to your friend's house after a full day's work.
- Don't compound the risk of the above by adding alcohol.

While these all seem like common sense it is alarming how often these items come up again and again in mishaps reports. It is more alarming when we reflect that these mishaps happened despite the heavy emphasis on safety and proper procedure in the military. Although the above items all seem like extreme cases, the pattern of thought that led to them is something we can all be prone to, especially in the exuberance of pursuing a desired goal while also interacting with treasured friends.

As we gear up for our heavy operational season a good rule of thumb is to ask yourself "How would the actions I am taking look in the black and white of a mishap report?" While sitting in the office it is always easy to ponder the phrase "Discretion is the better part of valor." It is when I am desperate to get all the screens into the second floor windows before dinner, or honor my promise to patrol to the island and back that I have to remind myself to quit before I get over tired, to always leave a reserve of time and fuel and to remember that slow is often pro.

Enjoy the fine weather, long hours of sunlight, and coming back safe. CDR C

FROM THE DESK of CWO Chris Brown, Operations Training Officer/Assistant DIRAUX

Greetings D13 Auxiliary!

My talking point this month is the Minimum Crew Requirements as per the Auxiliary Ops Policy Manual and pertains to surface facilities under CG patrol orders.

As many of you are aware Section N of the Aux Ops Policy Manual, page 1-31 provides a table (diagram) that lists the minimum number of coxn/crew that must be aboard an OPFAC. The tables are straight forward and consistent with good seamanship practices.

Over the last 2 months I have been presented numerous waiver requests from members seeking authorization to operate outside the scope of this policy. Section N.4 of that page also lists waiver procedures; and each waiver must be in writing and describe the precise (operating and weather) conditions under which the waiver applies.

Having heard each individual request, I must admit that I did not grant any exceptions to the policy. I consider myself a very strong supporter of Auxiliary Operations and supporter of you as the volunteer membership. However, if missions and sortie's DO NOT meet their required manning standards then my belief is we should not be engaging in that type of activity until the OPFAC can meet the requirements.

In addition to the reference above, Section J., Responsibilities of Facility Operators also describes about a dozen responsibilities of facility owners. Interestingly, the very first listed responsibility is "shall ensure at least the minimum number of qualified crew is onboard."

In closing, I hope my summary provides you additional insight of the policy and my view of the implementation as OTO. Please remember, this policy is one of the many standards that which we should be operating. Feel free to search for the Auxiliary Operations Policy Manual and read the manual in full context.

Thanks in advance; let's continue to keep a sharp eye on each other.

FOREVER AND ALWAYS -- NEXT WATCH!!!

FROM THE DESK of YN1 Jennifer L. Gonzales, Travel & Office Manager

C school orders are trickling in and just wanted to remind everyone of a couple of travel claim procedures. All travel vouchers must be submitted to the DIRAUX attention YN1 Jennifer Gonzales within 3 days of return from travel. All travel orders must be signed at the bottom and in blue ink, no exceptions. Any Travel Vouchers received without signature or in any other color than Blue, will be returned to the sender.

The summer months are approaching us fast and that means more travel for everyone. QE's and anyone else requesting local travel please submit the local travel voucher SF1164 at the end of your session or travel. If anyone is scheduled for travel and has orders and either does not go or does not want to file a travel voucher, please contact me as soon as possible at 206-220-7080 so I can zero out the funding obligated to your travel.

Thank you and I hope everyone enjoys the upcoming summer months. Hopefully we can get some warmer weather now.

FROM THE DESK of Charles K. Claytor, Auxiliary Affairs Specialist

Howdy all...We are having a heat wave...almost reached 70 degrees today! Know what else is hot? The New Member Applications I've been receiving. I have never had to return as many as in the last few weeks. Don't know what's going on other than we may be diverting our attention to the warmer weather rather than taking just a few moments to double check our work. Most of the errors on the New Member Applications are missed signatures or forgetting to check a box or not sending in a copy of something. You can help me out when filling in the new member applications by double checking your work or using the D130 Checklist which can be found at the Director's website under member services toward the bottom of the site <http://www.uscg.mil/d13/diraux/>. You will be seeing this web site updated soon and on a regular basis. In fact, you can now find an updated roster of member's who have submitted requests to attend C-schools. As time goes on I will be adding the forms that we most often use that are associated with our district.

Along with the new member application, please submit a jpeg member photo for all new members. Please remember that they must be in a short sleeve light blue Air Force style shirt or white dress shirt for new members only. They must be on a RED background. Not a purple or pink background, but RED. Same color

red as our national flag has. When I get the photo I must square it (crop) so please don't give me a photo that is too wide or long. You can send me these photos via email and please ensure that you mention their name and flotilla. One final thought on ID cards; must have the member's blood type and Rh factor (+/-). This is a mandatory requirement in District Thirteen.

If you have not provided this office with a photo of your Boat Facility, please do so. If you have provided us with a photo, no need to send it again, unless you have a better photo. Thanks to all who have already sent us a Facility photo.

For those of you who have write access to AUXDATA, one last time please, do not split an address in AUXDATA. The first line of the address is the mailing address in its entirety. The second line is the member's physical address. So if the member's mailing address is the same as their physical address, you use line one only! Our mailing labels DO NOT include the second line. So if you split the address, we will get the mail returned.

One final note for this month's chapter of Charles's notes; as we move further into the technological age, we will be using much less paper and digitizing what we have now on file. Case in point, many Districts have already begun to digitize their member records. And in so doing that, they have also been minimizing the amount of documents that they store. For example, we now try to keep a copy of letters and certificates that we send the member. Very soon we won't be doing that. It will be the responsibility of the member to keep track of documents they receive from DIRAUX. Of course we will be keeping member applications and anything that is not documented somewhere else. So if it is in AUXDATA, we won't duplicate it on paper. That seems to make sense to me. Once we have completed our transfer of records to a database, we will send to you all the paper that we have collected over the years.

Boating season has begun and we need to look out not only for our boating constituents, but ourselves as well. Please be safe out there as I know you will be.

FROM THE DESK of Shirley A. Blanchett, Auxiliary Program Assistant

DOCUMENTATION OF AWARDS: Whenever there is an award given to your membership Flotilla Commanders should be sending a copy of the citation to the DIRAUX office so that it can be recorded for the members. Otherwise, we will never know that an award was given unless we stumble across it while reading flotilla newsletters. I only have knowledge about the awards that originate in the DIRAUX office.

AUXILIARIST OF THE WEEK: If you have an Auxiliarist in mind for the Aux of the Week award email a paragraph telling the DIRAUX what the Auxiliarist did to merit the award and attach a couple of pictures of the candidate. e-mail your request to: shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil.

MEMBER INFO UPDATES: do you know who all of your flotilla members are? Are there names on your flotilla roster of members that you have never met? Now is a good time for Flotilla Commanders to contact their membership to have them update personal information in AUXDATA. Personal information such as addresses, phone numbers and e-mails need to be updated at the flotilla level, by each individual Auxiliarist and their FSO-IS officer.

PICTURES OF YOURSELF DURING MILITARY DUTY, PEACE CORPS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, OR OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE:

Do you have pictures of yourself from your time served in uniform or other public service? The DIRAUX is requesting pictures of our Auxiliary membership who have served through many different avenues. We are collecting items for the history of the Auxiliary in the Thirteenth District and the uniformed public service of

many of our members. Please submit pictures that you would like to share, along with year and type of service, to the DIRAUX office. Point of contact: Shirley Blanchett, email: shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil



Ed Gould, (blue flight suit) CAP Protective Service 1995
Chief of Protective Service, Central Arizona Project



US Army Captain Ambrose (Gary) Laverty
Viet Nam 1970

WEAR IT!

THE 2014 NORTH AMERICAN SAFE BOATING CAMPAIGN!

AS NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK (MAY 17–23, 2014)

Join the National Safe Boating Council and hundreds of boating advocates around the world on **Friday, May 16** to show how easy it is to wear a life jacket during Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day. As part of the National Safe Boating Council's [Wear It!](#) campaign, Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day shows others how easy (and comfortable) wearing a life jacket is, even while at work.

MAY 16, 2014

**SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH THE NATIONAL SAFE BOATING COUNCIL
ON THEIR READY, SET, WEAR IT! FACEBOOK PAGE AT**

[FACEBOOK.COM/READYSETWEARIT](https://www.facebook.com/READYSETWEARIT),

**TWEET IT TO @READYSETWEARIT USING #RSWI2014 OR EMAIL PHOTOS TO
YMOSLEHIAN@SAFEBOATINGCOUNCIL.ORG.**

COAST GUARD PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS: We have coloring books, stickers, color-ons, and activity books available for interested flotillas. Please send an email to shirley.a.blanchett@uscg.mil to make a request.





