

**DIRAUX NOTES**  
**A Publication of the 13<sup>th</sup> District Auxiliary Office**  
**MARCH 2003**

**FROM THE DIRECTOR**

LCDR Kelly A. Boodell

**Welcome the New Bridge!!!** For those of you who were not able to attend our District Meeting in Lincoln City, you sure missed a terrific meeting! There was a lot happening, from workshops to the swearing in of your new bridge! For those who are newer to the organization, your newly elected District Commodore (DCO) is Dan Neiderhiser, his Vice is (VCO) Jack Bradbury. The Area Commodores are: Eastern: Katy Zundel; Southern: June feather; and Northern: Fred Bell. WELCOME ABOARD and congratulations!!

**Department of Homeland Security:** Today I started a new job and so did you!! We now work for a new agency and will have some quirky transitional issues to deal with as we move along. The first is that we can no longer send out anything that says "Department of Transportation." Please change all of your letterhead, or white out the DOT reference where you can. We are struggling with this as well since all certificates say DOT on them.... we are waiting for guidance and will share with you as we receive it!

**Receive DIRAUX Notes by E-Mail:** If you would like to receive DIRAUX notes by e-mail, please sign up at the following site, it is very simple!  
[http://miami.dnsvault.com/mailman/listinfo/dirauxnotes\\_d13cgaux.org](http://miami.dnsvault.com/mailman/listinfo/dirauxnotes_d13cgaux.org)

**On Line Testing:** Most of the AUXOP Specialty exams are now available on line. They are proctored by designated proctors in each district and the proctoring mechanism is secure. These exams can be immediately retaken if failed. You can use the password that is issued to you for 48 hours; the instructor is considered the National Training Center. When a member passes the specialty exam they are notified on-line if they have passed. Our office also receives notification. It is the hope that AUXDATA will be automatically updated as well. Qualifications and certifications are not updated by this process, that is a function that our offices must still perform. If you note a discrepancy, please inform your chain so that it can be corrected.

**Dairy Queen:** There are new updated certificates to hand out to the kids who are wearing life jackets! RBS Manager Don Knesebeck handed them out to Division Captains at the District meeting, go get yours! It is a great program!

**ISAR 2003:** The International Search and Rescue (ISAR) Competition will begin on 26 Sept. D13 has selected to provide a team of members to St. Johns Newfoundland this year!!! You will be learning a lot about this and will hopefully decide to participate. We plan on using the Operational Excellence program as the backbone of our local program. The result is that we will build team spirit, fellowship, and fine-tune essential skills so that will continue to impress the nation! Read on and come join the fun!!! More will follow!! [www.isar2002.com](http://www.isar2002.com)

**TCT or Risk Management???** The Risk Management Course is a great course but is NOT an official replacement to TCT. While we were initially led to believe that Risk Management was approved, suffice it to say the cart got in front of the horse. I know that this is confusing but rest assured that when we receive the official word (i.e. a COMDT INST) we will immediately let you know. Until further notice the TCT course is still required.

**DIRAUX Backlog:** We are undertaking a hard look at our processes and are examining ways to reduce very costly interruptions, in an effort to improve our customer service to you. Please help us by recognizing that every interruption to my staff costs them and you. While my staff can probably answer your question, there is probably someone else in your chain of leadership and management that could also provide you with an answer. If the person responsible for providing you that assistance is not responsive to your need, then bring that up the chain as well. In order for me to hold my staff accountable to you, I must also ask that you agree to follow the same rules. There will be some changes coming that are designed to make us more efficient and effective at performing our functions. If you agree to help us by eliminating the interruptions, then we know our plans will succeed.

**OPERATIONAL PEOPLE GOING REYR:** DIRAUX received an exemption from HQ to control the REYR listing manually this year, while AUXDATA is getting smoothed out, since we have been using the April 30 deadline. In the meantime, Auxiliarist's need to ensure their hours and certification requirements have been completed and the paperwork sent to their SO-IS's or DIRAUX for entry into AUXDATA. The SO-IS's need to make sure all this data is getting properly put into AUXDATA. Not only will this effect certification in AUXDATA, but it will also mean that POMS will be affected. Auxiliarists will not be able to receive orders for patrols once they are put into a REYR status. Unit Training Status Reports will be distributed to the SO-VE, SO-MDV, and SO-OP in each Division. Please check the names on the list and let CWO Bellona know who is fully certified with the proper hours and who has what is left to obtain that certification. Lets be proactive in getting the information so we do not lose any of our members to a REYR status. Help us avoid a lot of unnecessary work!

## FROM OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

CWO4 Paul Bellona

**ISAR (International SAR) Competition** between the U. S. Auxiliary and the Canadian Auxiliary will be held on 26-27 SEP in St. John's Newfoundland, with travel days on 25 and 28 SEP. We are putting word out to all D13 Auxiliarists that we will be sending a team to this competition and that COMDT (ocx) will be funding teams from D13 and 5 other Districts to compete. A committee (Bill Houger, Frank Ramer, Katie Zundel, Chuck Olson) met on 25 FEB via conference call and will continue to meet on a regular basis. Our objective is to ensure that D13 puts the best team together for this competition, as well as getting the most operational training and general readiness for our membership to get them ready to meet any operational mission that the Coast Guard needs assistance with. The D13 Team will be made up of 4 members. Team events will include (between U. S. and Canadian teams): Search and Rescue Planning, On-Water SAREX, SAR Pump, Heaving Line 1, Heaving Line 2, and a Mystery Event. Team events for the International Team will include: Chart Work, Marlinspike, Water Rescue, Heaving Line 3, and a Mystery Event. Not only are we promoting **ISAR**, but also the **CG Aux Operational Excellence Program** since it will be used as a foundation for the ISAR competition at all levels and will reward those who work so hard to hone their skills. Since the ISAR competition and the Operational Excellence judging will involve QE's, it is also a great opportunity for boat crew candidates to qualify. To provide additional accomplishments, we also encourage the use of this time to re-certify early, especially for the 5<sup>th</sup> year certification and to get new members involved in the boat crew program. Additional information will be coming out on the D13 Web Site, other DIRAUXNOTES and from the DSO-OP's. **This is a great way to get involved in the Boat Crew Program this year and to receive some good underway training this year, so hop on board with us. D13 is also hoping to host this event in 2004.**

**2003 Operations Workshop:** The 2003 Operations Workshop was given at the 13<sup>th</sup> District Auxiliary Meeting on 22 FEB to all DSO-OP's and other attendees (approximately 50 members). It is mandatory for all Auxiliary members participating in Surface Operations and the Marine Safety Program as a key part of the Auxiliary Operation Patriot Readiness (Phase II), which focuses on moving the Auxiliary to a higher state of readiness. Auxiliarists are required to attend this workshop prior to 1 JUN 03 in order to be authorized to participate in their respective programs. Members not attending this workshop prior to the cutoff date will not be eligible to receive orders or credit for any mission during their "uncertified" period. Failure to comply by the deadline will indicate a "not qualified" status in the AUXDATA Individual or Unit Certification Report in the training module.

**Operational Excellence Program:** This program has been out since last year, but has been under-advertised. A copy of the program was given to all the DSO-OP's at the 2003 Operational Workshop to pass out to their members. It is an opportunity for all boat crews to improve their proficiency and skills through a series of evaluated scenarios and if they score high enough, to receive an "E" for excellence Decal/Ribbon. The E-decal is issued to the Coxswain to be placed on the Coxswain's facility (may be displayed for the time remaining in the calendar year earned, plus the next full calendar year). The Coxswain/Team receives a ribbon and may be worn until it is discontinued. It is an award to those who demonstrate a high level of proficiency in boat crew skills, foster teamwork, and encourage fellowship with other operational members. The Operational Excellence Program tasks include Search Planning, Search Execution, Pump Drill, Communications, Complete the normal Currency Maintenance Tasks: Pre-Underway Check off, MOB Drill, Towing Drill. A total of 100 points is possible and a score of 90 is required for the award. **This is a great way to hone your underway skills (coxswain and crew), as well as to help get ready for the ISAR Competition or other operational missions.**

**Facility Inspection & Offer For Use Form:** Just a quick reminder that this is due into DIRAUX no later than 30 APR 03 if you want your vessel in an operational status for 2003. After this date, we will start placing them in a Non-Operational status in AUXDATA and you will not be able to receive patrol orders. PLEASE make sure that you double check your forms to ensure they are complete before you send them in, so we will not have to send them back. Also PLEASE put your Division/Flotilla # by your member #, so we can find your facility easier in AUXDATA. Thank-you!

**Facility Crew Requirements:** Another reminder...Facility crew requirements for patrols in D13: Facilities up to 26' – Coxswain and 1 Boat Crew Member required; Facilities 26' to 34' – Coxswain and 1 Boat Crew Member required or Coxswain and 2 Boat Crew Members recommended; Facilities over 34' Coxswain and 2 Boat Crew Members required. Only Operational Commanders (DIRAUX/Group CO/Station CO or OINC can approve waivers to these requirements.

**2002 Currency Maintenance:** We received a waiver from requirements that would have placed everyone in D13 in a REYR status that didn't have their hours or Certification Tasks completed and entered into AUXDATA. We know there were some mistakes, so all the DSO-Ops/DCPs received the list to check their boat crewmembers on who should be re-certified or REYR. I would like the list back from all the Divisions by the end of MARCH, so we can start making the changes in AUXDATA for those who require REYR.

**Personal Protective Equipment:** We are still waiting for our funding to come out. Once it does we will start to order PPE for all of the Flotilla's that have their requests in. We will order as much as the funding allows us to and I will try to be as fair as possible. If you didn't get your flotilla's request in, then you are taking a big risk and may not get anything when it is time to order this gear.

## FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

SK1 Nelson Fritz

**ORDERS:** Thanks to all who have started sending in their orders in from the District Meeting. I will be departing PCS in a couple of months. So, the sooner I receive those claims, the better. My replacement, SK1 Holly Boehme will be on board for 3 days at the end of March for a crash course on this position. She will be reporting permanently in June.

**DIRECT DEPOSIT/EFT FORM:** I've been getting a lot of inquiries lately about direct deposit. So, I'm going to repost this link from FINCEN, which will answer some of those questions that I've been getting. - [https://cgweb.fincen.uscg.mil/secure/enrollment\\_form.htm](https://cgweb.fincen.uscg.mil/secure/enrollment_form.htm) or log onto the FINCEN website <http://www.fincen.uscg.mil/> and click on "CG Field Unit Links" and use the drop down menu to find that form.

## FROM THE COMPUTER SECTION

Ms. Bobbie Heim

**PATIENCE, PATIENCE, AND MORE PATIENCE:** Our office, and the computer section in particular, has been trying to clear backlogged work, while dealing with excessive numbers of “urgent” E-mail messages and telephone calls. Every minute spent researching questions, takes time away from clearing backlogged work, and prevents progress on the regular, normal computer entries. Luckily, more Auxiliarists have recently decided to volunteer in our offices, providing us with much needed assistance. We will be spending some time training our new volunteers, but their efforts will soon be noticeable to you! Please help us by using your chain and avoid contacting us directly.

**CHARTERING FOR FL 7-13, SCAPPOOSE, OR:** Our newest unit will be chartered in April! I will need to concentrate on the FL 7-13, Scappoose personnel work, with computer entries and formal correspondence during March. Some other work may need to be set aside, temporarily.

## FROM THE MEMBER STATUS SECTION

Ms. Shirley Blanchett

**INITIALLY QUALIFIED AND BASICALLY QUALIFIED ENROLLMENTS:** To be entered as Basically Qualified on the New Member Enrollment Application there must be a check mark under any of the Boating Courses Completed section of Section III. You *must* also write in the date when the Boating course was completed, and the date must have been within the last two years. If the date has been left off of the application the new member will be entered as, “Initially Qualified”.

**NEW ENROLLMENTS:** The most current Enrollment Application form is the ANSC 7001 (7-99). Any enrollment form that was used prior to this form can still be used, but most do not have a place on them to record Basic Boating Courses. If you use an enrollment form that does not have a place to record a Basic Boating Course you will need to indicate somewhere on the enrollment application if the applicant has taken a Basic Boating Course within the last two years. If you do not indicate this information somewhere on the application the applicant will be given the status of Initially Qualified. Be sure to include the date the applicant took the course. On the current form you can record the course where it is written, “BOATING COURSE COMPLETED: DATE: \_\_\_\_\_” A sample of the most current Enrollment Application form, ANSC 7001 (7-99) is included in the March mail out.

**ID CARDS:** All current ID cards with the old member number are still acceptable forms of Coast Guard Auxiliary Identification. The DIRAUX office will not be sending out new ID cards with the new member number printed on them. DIRAUX *will* send out ID cards to Auxiliarists whose ID cards have been lost, destroyed, or are expired. New ID cards will still be included with the Annual Membership Awards, processed in five-year increments. It is strongly suggested that you tape your new Auxiliary member number onto your current card. For DIRAUX purposes all new member numbers will still begin with the district number, division and flotilla designations, as were the old numbers. The last 3 digits of the old member number have been deleted. In their stead, add the seven-digit number received from AUXDATA. Please use the new member number for all correspondence with DIRAUX.