

ALERT

11

Volume XVI Issue I February 2010

2010 Change of Watch Held January 15



Penny Milczewski (VFC), Peter Border (FC), Peter Raiswell (District 13 DCOS)

by Penny Mildzewski, VFC

The changing of the guard occurred Friday evening, January 15, at the Northwood Hall, in Bellingham. Sixty people gathered to commemorate the installation of 2010 Flotilla 11 officers. Peter Border was sworn in as Flotilla Commander, and Penny Milczewski as Vice Commander. John Milczewski was thanked for his two years as FC, and all 2009 staff officers recognized for their service. Staff officers for the new year (many reappointments) were sworn in. Flotilla members were joined by active duty guests from Station Bellingham and the USCGC Terrapin; LTJG Tyler Heffner; BMC Travis Mingo; BMI John Russell; and BMI Jim Koon.

The keynote speaker was Peter Raiswell, from Sequim, the current District 13 Auxiliary Chief of Staff. Raiswell will be the next District 13 Commodore. The Flotilla was also joined by Auxiliary officers Richard Coons, Blaine, District Captain-North; and Harry Ota, Anacortes, Vice Division Commander-Div 1. Flotilla 11 members also representing leadership positions were present: Maggie Albert, Division Commander; Joe McClain, District Department Chief-Response; Pam Chelgren-Koterba, Assistant District Staff Officer-Navigation Services; and Mike Hayner-National Branch Chief, Dept. A (Public Affairs) Web Division.

Peter Border presented John Milczewski with the Flotilla's gift of appreciation – a life ring for Second Wind, Milczewski's facility.



Peter Border (FC)



New member Valerie Steiner-Peterson being sworn in by John Milczewski (IPFC, FSO-PE)

2010 Change of Watch Held January 15



Dick Pylilo, Ernie Salotti, Patti Salotti, Joe McClain, Bob Busch, Peter Border, John Milczewski, Penny Milczewski, Dick Winchip, Pam Chelgren-Koterba, and Jim Appleby receive an Award for participation in the Radiation Exercise.



Some of our 2010 Flotilla Staff Officers being sworn in: Pam Chelgren-Koterba, Fred Neil, Dick Winchip, Gerelyn Winchip, John Milczewski, Patti Salotti, Ernie, Salotti, and Jan Adams.

Bill Daniel Memorial Award 2009



FC Peter Border presents the Bill Daniel Memorial Award for 2009 to Pam Chelgren-Koterba.

There have been many recipients of the Bill Daniel Award since its premier appearance in 1982. Each has demonstrated the willingness and ability to make outstanding contributions to the Auxiliary, the Coast Guard, and the boating community.

The deserving recipient of the 2009 Bill Daniel Memorial Award has not only demonstrated the willingness to take on new and difficult tasks, she has consistently been involved in the daily and sometimes mundane activities that keep the organization alive and functioning.

Her dedication and commitment to help the United States Coast Guard is evident in her stepping up whenever organizational skills, time and energy are needed. She takes training seriously and consistently demonstrates her personal commitment to skill development and proficiency. In Public Education and Member Training, she not only provided instruction and support directly, but assumed leadership and organizational responsibility. She took on responsibility for coordinating the multi-flotilla crew assignments for SeaArk missions for the vessel's last year of operation at Station Bellingham. She serves in staff support positions at flotilla, division, and district levels, and has consistently volunteered to train Auxiliary members at all these levels. She can always be counted on to stand watch at public event booths. Her commitment, energy, and willingness to step into leadership and work activities with enthusiasm and skill have served the Auxiliary and the Coast Guard well.

The members of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla Eleven take great pride and pleasure in awarding the 2009 Bill Daniel Memorial Award to Pam Chelgren-Koterba.

Her devotion to duty is most heartily commended and in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Awarded 15 January 2010

John Milczewski, Flotilla Commander

Who was Bill Daniel?

William Briggs Daniel was an Oklahoma Sooner fan, a newspaper man, and an avid boater.

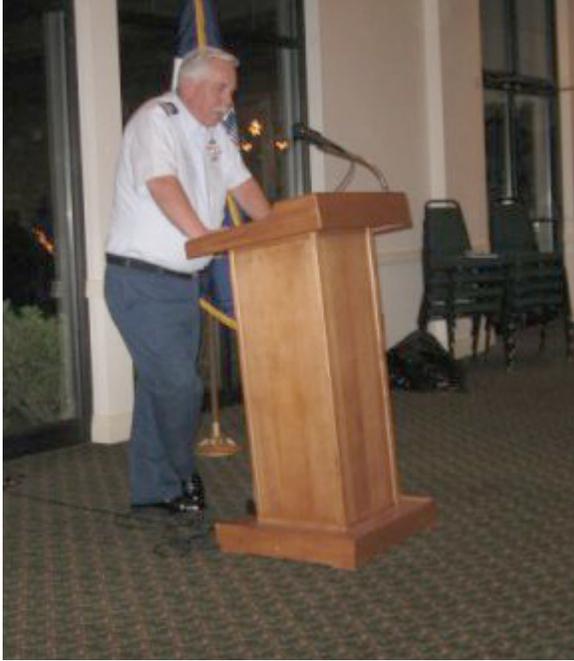
Born in Oklahoma in 1935, Bill came to Bellingham in 1962 to work for the Bellingham Herald. In his 20 years at the Herald, he served for some time on almost every beat and editorial slot with enthusiasm and skill. For several years he wrote the weekly boating column, *Bell Tones*. A fellow newspaperman wrote about Bill that his success was in "his personality – the way he got people to take that extra step. He gave them a gentle shove and got things moving."

Mr. Daniel and his wife Beverly were active members of the boating community, enjoying their 27 ft. Uniflite, named *By-line*. Bill served on the Bellingham Yacht Club board of directors from 1969 to 1978, and was club commodore in 1975 and '76, and was president of the local Propeller Club in 1974 and '75. In 1967, Bill joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Flotilla Eleven was very small and only performed operations on the water. As a driving force, Bill was able to get a grant from the Bellingham Herald to start the BS&S classes in Flotilla Eleven. He served as Flotilla Commander in 1979 and 1980, and was active in boater safety training and on the water programs.

Bill Daniel died at his Bellingham Herald desk the morning of January 4, 1982. He had met his deadlines and was already preparing the next edition's column. He was 46 years old.

Following Bill's death, his wife Bev requested that a memorial be established in Bill's name in our flotilla. That was the beginning of the Bill Daniel Memorial Award, recognizing Auxiliarists who give that gentle shove and take that extra step. The first recipient of this award in 1982 is still active in the flotilla – pilot Jack Herrick.

Commander's Comments



Our new Flotilla Commander, Peter Border, at the podium during Change of Watch on January 15, 2010.

As the new Flotilla Commander I am somewhat amazed at how I find myself in this position today. Looking back when I first joined the Auxiliary, I had no idea that I would be leading the parade, but here I am. I will need your support and help to continue the great job we do for the boating public.

We have some really dedicated people in our flotilla and we can always use more to share the jobs that keep coming from our partners in recreational boating. We can always use help with our classes, safety programs and staff positions and we look forward to new participants, as they always seem to bring new energy and enthusiasm to the task. Please don't hesitate to step forward if you would like to participate in any of our flotilla events.

Some of you may be wondering what kind of changes I have in mind for the flotilla and any new ideas, programs or projects. We have a lot on our plate now with on-going programs and activities, but we will be enhancing our flotilla meetings with more outside speakers, information and programs at each meeting. We will also be planning to augment our boating classes with some new ideas, instructors and new training opportunities with our upcoming Crew Academy in February.

If there is enough interest from the flotilla, we would like to arrange some boat tours with the Coast Guard. There is also the opportunity for some of our members to assist the Coast Guard with watchstanding, and some other shore based activities in addition to regular on the water safety patrols. There will be training opportunities and projects in recreational boating during the summer

My mission, as I see it, as Flotilla Commander is to maintain the high standards of performance in our flotilla and to expand programs and opportunities for our members. At the same time I will rely heavily on our staff officers to carry out their responsibilities willingly and ably to ensure a high level of service to our members and the boating public. We will also maintain a good working relationship with Division and District staff, Coast Guard and of course our marine partners in boating safety. Hopefully, we will all wear our uniforms proudly and staff officers will lead by example, at all of our public events, including our local flotilla meetings.

I look forward to an exciting year as your new leader and will try to do the best job I can. Please contact me if you have any ideas or suggestions.

Peter Border, FC-11

Detachment News

Hi to all:

For those of you who did not attend Monday's (January 25) Auxiliary detachment meeting – we missed you.

Here's a synopsis of the meeting:

Apparently I am now the Officer in Charge. Tom Tillman will be assisting me.

We voted to change the name of the detachment. It is now the SAN JUAN ISLANDS detachment.

MEETING DATES –

We plan to move our meetings around this year. Here is the tentative schedule:

- February 22: Friday Harbor Islanders Bank, 1200-1330 (our normal location)
- March 22: Orcas Island Orcas Inn, 1230
- April 26: Aboard the Inter Island ferry
- May 24: Friday Harbor Islanders Bank, 1200-1330*
- June 28: Orcas Island Orcas Inn, 1230*
- July 26: Friday Harbor Islanders Bank, 1200-1330*
- August 22: Lopez Island, to be announced Summer picnic – y'all come!
- September 27: Aboard the Inter Island ferry
- October 25: Lopez or Friday Harbor
- November 29: Orcas Island Orcas Inn 1230*
- December 12: Friday Harbor Christmas potluck – location to be announced

*Times may change due to the ferry schedules. Check with us for times.

PATROLS –

We will set up several patrols and, hopefully, participate in some Bellingham patrols.

PUBLIC EDUCATION –

Boating class – In May in conjunction with the Sheriff's Dept.

VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS / PUBLIC AFFAIRS –

We will try to have a booth at the "Flotsam & Jetsom" marine flea market in Friday Harbor in April.

Vessel safety checks will continue with several "Marina Days."

That's all for now.

Gary Ford

San Juan Islands Detachment Awards

- Tom Tillman has received Digital Photography and Fingerprint awards by passing tests.
- Steven & Annie Chock have passed their Patrol Specialty Course exam.
- Gary Ford is the new OIC for the San Juan Island detachment and Tom Tillman is his assistant.

Crew Academy Begins Feb. 6

All potential Crew Academy attendees:

Flotilla 11 (B'ham) is conducting a Crew Academy in the 2010 Winter-Spring (Feb. 6th – June 12th). The Academy classroom sessions will be held at the Squalicum YC on Saturday mornings during February and March, and the on-water training patrols will be Saturday mornings during April through mid-June. (We have skipped a few weekends because of special events like Spring Break and "Opening Day.")

Please make sure you have informed Pam C-K what type of PPE you have:

- Dry Suit
- Float Coat (Not usually provided by USCG)
- AEC – Mustang Anti-exposure Coveralls

and what training materials you already have:

- Boat Crew Seamanship Manual (edition C)
- Crew Qualification Book

Also whether you are just “auditing” (reviewing) the training, and if so, whether you will (or will not) be getting underway.

And remember, members need to be “BQ” (have completed a boating safety class) before starting this program. If you have not, please contact Pam C-K or John Milczewski ASAP to complete this requirement.

Again, all classroom sessions will be at the Squalicum YC (2633 South Harbor Loop, B'ham 98225; down at the Squalicum Marina, near the north end. Turn west off of Roeder at Coho Way and proceed to the NW corner by the fence. It's a white 1-story building.)

You should have received a 2-page Syllabus which lists the dates (starting Feb. 6th!), instructors, topics. We will review what all the abbreviations mean on that first morning. We'll have coffee ready for you before the start time (8AM).

I will ensure all F11 attendees have their own Crew Qualification Books before 2/6 (if you don't already have it). We are also trying to scrounge-up some more Boat Crew Seamanship Manuals (from each Flotilla), so that everyone has a copy. If anyone has access to extra paper copies, please let me know (ASAP).

For those of you that have not yet obtained your ODUs (Operational Dress Uniform), just wear (nice) casual clothes. And given the month and intermittent heater in the building, be sure to bring a warm jacket.

If you have any questions/issues, or you want to assist, just contact me at 647-9715.

And welcome, everyone, to this important training program!

Pamela Chelgren-Koterba, FSO-MT, F11

BS&S Classes Start Feb. 8

Opportunities for classroom instruction and assistance

Boating Skills and Seamanship Class begins on Monday, February 8, 2010.

We will not have a huge class but (based on the interest those signed up have expressed) it will be a good one.

The class will be held at the Salvation Army Headquarters Building at 2912 Northwest Ave. Our classes are from 6:30-8:30pm Mondays and Wednesdays until March 22. The eleven two-hour educational sessions allow for broader exposure to boating skills including maintenance, trailering, and navigation. We have a good time interacting with students who bring broad ranges of experience to the classroom. It is always helpful to have additional Auxiliary members there to assist and/or support the instructors. "Jeopardy" night – the review before the exam on March 22, is always an entertaining event. Members interested in becoming an instructor will also get a good idea about how we present the class.

If you have questions or are interested in participating, contact John Milczewski, FSO-PE, by email to: john@Milczewski.org or call 752-0391 home / 739-1310 cell.

Operation Podium



Auxiliary members across the region are being tasked to support local USCG and other law enforcement efforts related to maintaining homeland security and promoting public safety during the Olympic Games in the Greater Vancouver BC area. Activities will be conducted through all of February, as there are many pre- and post-Games activities.

Auxiliarists willing to participate in Waterway Awareness, public boating education, marine safety, administrative and organizational support at active duty stations are encouraged to make their availability known. Coordination of the Auxiliary efforts will be managed through the CAN (Citizens' Action Network) program and the SMO (Sector Marina Outreach) program. VFC Penny Milczewski will serve as the Flotilla 11 Coordinator for these programs during the Olympics. We will have an emergency response contact system in effect. Please check the most recent roster to ensure your contact information is correct.

US OLYMPICS SECURITY: IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

Officials of the many local, state, and federal agencies working to make the US side of the border safe during the 2010 Vancouver Olympics urge residents to be vigilant and report suspicious objects or events to their local 911 center. Major General Timothy J. Lowenberg, Adjutant General of the Washington National Guards says, "Local people know best what does or doesn't belong in a particular place and what behavior is unusual." Lowenberg stressed that the response to any event or emergency will remain in the hands of agencies that would handle them on any other day. Just call 911 to quickly and easily report something you find suspicious," said Lowenberg.

Reasons to call 911 can include:

- An unattended package or briefcase at a transit stop or other crowded area;
- An unusual piece of mail arriving at a local business;
- An unknown vehicle parked illegally, or for an extended period of time;
- People watching critical infrastructure such as hospitals, electrical substations or major industrial plants without apparent reason.

An Olympics Coordination Center has been established in Bellingham to provide communication and support for first-response agencies that might handle an emergency on the US side of the border. "We expect winter weather or traffic crashes to be our biggest problems," said Undersheriff Jeff Parks of the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office. "But we will be ready to support those first-response agencies should something happen on our side of the border. Please go about your daily activities. We just ask that you be a little extra vigilant during this particular time."

WELCOME New Members

By Patti Salotti, FSO-PS

With emphasis on “new members,” many of our current members are working at being recruiters for the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. It’s really easy, too. Each of us, whether in uniform or not, can help bring in new members by talking-up, or promoting the Auxiliary to people around us in our everyday lives. Each of us is a possible recruiter. Many of our new members join because of this “word-of-mouth” of our current members.

Take new member Fred Bannister for instance. Fred Bell started up a conversation with Fred Bannister at an Auxiliary booth at the port of Bellingham in late 2009. Fred Bell mentioned what he was doing and threw in a lot of details about what the CG Auxiliary had to offer its members. Shortly after that initial conversation Fred Bannister called me to find out what he needed to do to become a member. Within a week Fred Bannister had joined the Auxiliary!

New member Travis Sherman gleaned plenty of information about the Coast Guard Auxiliary from his uncle Dan Sherman, FL 11 member. Travis’ plan is to eventually become a Coast Guardsman. Currently, he is working on a college degree, but Uncle Dan talked-up the Coast Guard Auxiliary for now and Travis signed up!

Other new members and recruiters in 2009 were: new member Gary Lazarus was recruited by member Ed Simmers; new

member J.R. Michaels was recruited by member Peter Border; and Valerie Steiner-Peterson was recruited by member Jim Appleby!

This recruitment is fantastic and simply proves the dedication our members have to the Coast Guard and the CG Auxiliary.

Have you tried your voice at recruiting? Remember . . . each of us is a possible recruiter. Give it a try, in person, on the phone or otherwise..



Give a
friend a
call, talk
it up.



Send a message, talk it up!



Meet for
lunch and
talk-up the
Coast Guard
Auxiliary!

Clip Art from Office online

Calendar of Events

Thursday, February 4, 6pm

Flotilla Staff Meeting at Cascade Pizza, upstairs meeting room. Dinner at 6pm; meeting at 7pm. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday, February 6, 8am-noon

Crew Academy starts at Squalicum YC. (more info: Pam C-K at 647-9715)

Topic: Intro, First Aid, Area familiarization

Monday, February 8, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class starts at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham. (more info: John at 752-0391)

Wednesday, February 10, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Monday, February 15, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Wednesday, February 17, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Thursday, February 18, 7pm (NOTE: change of location)

Flotilla Meeting will be held at 7pm, at [St. Luke's Health Education Center](#), 3333 Squalicum Parkway (east of the hospital, on left, at end of Squalicum).

Saturday, February 20, 8am-noon

Crew Academy at Squalicum YC. (more info: Pam C-K at 647-9715)

Topic: Safety and Survival Equipment / Flare Shoot

Monday, February 22, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Tuesday, February 23

Nav Class with Lou Herrick.

Tuesday, February 23, 6pm

VE Workshop at the Opportunity Council Conference Room, at 6pm.

Wednesday, February 24, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Monday, March 1, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Wednesday, March 3, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Saturday, March 6, 8am-noon

Crew Academy at Squalicum YC. (more info: Pam C-K at 647-9715)

Topic: Navigation Basics

Monday, March 8, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Wednesday, March 10, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Monday, March 15, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S Class at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Wednesday, March 17, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S REVIEW at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Thursday, March 18, 6pm (NOTE: change of location)

Flotilla Meeting will be held at 7pm, at [WECU Education Center](#), 511 East Holly St. (by Kinko's, across street from main WECU building. Potluck dinner at 6pm; meeting at 7pm.

Monday, March 22, 6:30-8:30pm

BS&S EXAM at Salvation Army Headquarters, 2912 Northwest Ave., Bellingham.

Saturday, March 27, 8am-noon

Crew Academy starts at Squalicum YC. (more info: Pam C-K at 647-9715)

Topic: Boat Handling

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Thirteenth District Division One

Northernmost, in the San Juan Island chain, Patos Island's Lighthouse looks across Haro Strait to Canada.



Photo by Patricia Sabott

U.S. Department of Homeland Security United States Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

Official Business

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