

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary



District 13

Washington • Oregon • Idaho •
Montana

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Fall-Winter 2003/2004



Humans and Hardware -- It Takes Them Both

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Buoy 13

The official publication of the 13th District U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

U.S. Coast Guard

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Charles W. Lindenberg, DSO-PB-13
59 Tarte Road
Friday Harbor, WA 98250
cwlindenberg@interisland.net
360-378-6855

Deadline for the next issue of Buoy 13 is 15 March 2004.

Cover photo: District 13's 1900th member, Shailen G. Pratap, FL-33.
District 13's first CG-owned and maintained Auxiliary operated vessel.

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**DISTRICT 13
COMMODORE**

Dan Neiderhiser

The September 2003 District 13 Training Conference was a first of a kind and very informative. A representative from the USCG Academy was on hand to talk about the AIM program and education in general. Also present was a USCG Recruiter who provided information and suggestions to recruit new members. A Paddle Craft workshop took place as did an IS workshop, and an ATON/PATON workshop with representatives from the USCG on hand to answer questions. State Liaison Officer briefings and information on Rescue 21 and Communications was also presented. Plus the DIRAUX staff was present to answer any questions the membership had, and they were flooded from time to time. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Personal Electronic Position Indicating Radio Beacon Systems (PEPIRBS) were handed out, so if you did not submit your “wish list” several months ago via the



great meeting, full of information, awards, and rewards for all that’s accomplished by the membership.

So, what’s in store for 2004? We will continue to forge ahead with the Goals and Vision Statement that was established for 2003 and 2004 (seen in this publication). We will

FC, maybe next time. The District’s 1900th member was sworn in by RADM Garrett who also presented us the keys to the District’s first CG owned and maintained Auxiliary-operated 24-foot Sea Arc. What a



continue to improve membership training and membership expansion. Speaking of membership, it appears we grew by 140 new members as of this writing. However, we lost two flotillas through disestablishment. Why? Membership declined to take a leadership role. We all want to do those special things within the Auxiliary, which is why we joined — be it operations, public education, vessel safety checks or other positions. But, we still need to keep the flotillas alive and functioning unless the Flotilla Commander (FC) and board cannot correct the deficiency and elect to disestablish. If there is a clash of personalities, then the respective chain of communications should be involved, or the Civil Rights Officer. Let’s keep the lines of communications open and thwart cliques, clashes, and lack of training. By the way, does your flotilla have monthly training sessions at your respective flotilla meeting? If not, ask your FC why not.

Election season is upon us, and I ask each member in each flotilla to support those they elect as their leaders. And that the elected leaders become successful mentors to those around you, and to make your staff and membership meetings worthy of great attendance.

Speaking of leading by example, by now you have heard that our own District 13 International Search and Rescue (ISAR) Team who competed against the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary (CCGAux) returned in September as Winners! Actually, both District 13 and the CCGAux were winners. In this edition you will see information about our Team of Michael “Kriss” Anderson, Coos Bay OR; Dave Browning, Eugene, OR; Kristy Cough, Eugene, OR; and Daniel Repp, Olympia, WA. We are extremely proud of these members and what they accomplished. Bravo Zulu!

Additional training items being planned for 2004 are: AUXLAM 2A and 2B; AUXLAM 5A; ATON/PATON Training; and IS Training. This is in addition to training workshops at the District and Area Training Conferences.

Also in this edition, are the agenda and registration form for our February 21st, 2004 District Training Conference being conducted in Clackamas, OR. Take a look at the agenda items and select what you would like to participate in.

Continued on page 12



VCO Comments John F. Bradbury

By the time this gets to you folks, the elections will be completed and we will be busy getting Staff Officers appointed to start our new year. Congratulations to all newly elected Flotilla Commanders and Division Captains. Congratulations also to those who are serving for a second year in their position. We should also thank those who ran but didn't get elected. I appreciate the risks they took and offer them the encouragement to try again later.

The leadership our leaders bring will determine the course of D13 Auxiliary affairs. We all know that the work and activity takes place at the Flotilla level, which is the reason we have tried to bring good training to the Flotillas. If budgetary issues allow we will have more FC training next year. Please watch for other special opportunities for training at "C" Schools and in AuxLam. If you don't know how to go about it, please ask.

As good as our organization is, I think we can be better. One thing we all need to do is clear up the administrative snafus that are frustrating to our membership. Use the chain of Leadership and Communication and don't bypass folks who can help you by going to the top. Let's process the paperwork properly and timely. For instance, FC's let's get this ID Card thing wrapped up.

Many deserving members are missing out where awards are concerned. While there may be a few who don't care there are many who would be pleased to be recognized. Friends, it doesn't happen spontaneously, very often. Someone has to initiate the award. Everyone is eligible to nominate for an award, they can even nominate themselves, but someone has to do it to get an award started. Help is available from your Division, the District Board, and even, the DIRAUX office. First, though, someone in the Flotilla must start the ball rolling. The Awards committee will be sifting through nominations for various awards at the November EXCOM meeting. It is not difficult; send yours up through the chain.

Our organization is very dependant on the computer. Everything we do is entered in Auxdata. If the information in Auxdata is incomplete or incorrect it is easy to see why people get frustrated. They lose their Qualls, don't get credit for their activities, or their mail is lost or misplaced I'm sorry, FC's but this has to fall right on your plate, check your Flotilla printout and make corrections, or have them made, to the addresses, phone numbers, etc, there.

Please let me put in a plug for the upcoming District Meeting next February in Clackamas, OR. If you went to the last one in Olympia you know that the meetings have been changed for the better. Dan has an outstanding experience for you; it will be well worth your while. Jeff Mahl, District 7 will be there to present his special blend of computer and Internet magic that anyone can put into use. He is always a great asset to any conference where he appears.

The Operations workshop, which will be mandatory next year, will also be presented in Clackamas. This is the place to get it.

Thank you all for your efforts and accomplishments. I hope you have had a fulfilling year and gained new friends. It has been my pleasure to serve as your Vice Commodore this year. Have a nice Holiday Season.



On-The-Water-Training Returns

The newly revised On-The-Water-Training program from National is back. Originally, District 13 was a test bed for this program. A few flotillas incorporated this program after completion of the BS&S and Boating Safety classes and found that the students liked incorporating newly learned information while at the dock.

The revision clarifies many of the questions that were originally brought up, and it is much more user friendly. Try it.





RCO-N

Fred Bell

Teamwork

It's rare, it's innate, it is called teamwork -- an attribute required by all of us if we wish to attain our place in the winner's circle. Teamwork means a willingness to go that extra mile to insure the realization of the goals and objectives that were put in place at the district, division or flotilla level. We may consider ourselves the most talented of the group and a star in our own mind, but a star never shines as brightly as when he or she stoops to lift someone onto their shoulders.

Teamwork requires effort and cooperation, not titles, neither elected, nor appointed nor self-proclaimed; it means playing a back-up role while doing our own job. If a ground ball goes between my legs and you are there behind me to scoop it up and throw it to first, an out is still recorded. If I bobble the ball in the end zone and it falls into your hands because you were there, it's still a touchdown for our team. Your instinct for the game puts you in the right place at the right time.

Many of you are still employed and are faced with challenges daily. You have learned that to compete successfully in a global environment you must be first to market with the right product at the right price. You may also have discovered that the best chance for success is to include the entire team; the designer, the builder, the marketer and even the end user as part of the original planning team.

We are not a corporation, we don't build products, but we can still learn a valuable lesson -- "the best time to critique a plan is while it is still on the drawing board." We have a great organization. The Northern Area is very rich in talent. Some of our newest members have a wealth of knowledge and should not be alienated from your planning sessions. Some of them may be designers, some builders, some with a talent for marketing but we are all one team. Success requires that we function as a team and make all of the pieces fit. It also means knowing what

is expected of each of us and a determination to not let our team members down. It requires that we stay informed on the goals of the Auxiliary and the specific needs for our individual support. We must be willing to put the same effort into someone else's program as we put into our own projects. If we are not scheduled to teach, we can show up as an assistant. When we go to conduct vessel examinations we can ask a new member to accompany us as an observer. We do not compete among ourselves; we either succeed or fail as a group. And finally, if it is recognition that we seek, remember, the MVP is not awarded until the game is over. We may enter the game expecting to be noticed but awards and recognition are given for effort, not popularity. We should let our words and actions define who we really are, and who knows, we may all end up in the winner's circle at the end of the year.

Our goal is to be united and to have fun. Are you doing your part?



Posted on USCG Aux web page

Craig Brown

FC/DSO-MV/SO-MV/SO-VE

Kohler initiates voluntary recall of potentially deadly generators.

In an effort to replace a potentially deadly exhaust part, Kohler has initiated a voluntary recall of all of its marine generator sets powered by L600 or L654 gasoline engines. Manufactured between 1950 and 1989, the generators include the following model numbers: 2R, 2A, 2.5R, 2.5A, 3.5R, 3.5A, 4R, 4A, 5R, 5A, 6.5R, 6.5A, 7.5R, and 7.5A.. Posted: 24 July 2003. Source: Stuart Soffer, BC-AIN

Click on link for more information:

www.kohlerpowersystems.com./marine_pipereplace.html





DSO-VE

Jack Feather

AUXOP Program Coordinator

Requests for AUXOP Exams are starting to increase since the summer patrol and VSC seasons are slowing down and more members are completing the exams online.

On the requests to me, whether by mail, email or other means, please include the members Division and Flotilla ie: 05-06-xxxxxxx. Records filed at the DIRAUX office are by Div, then Flot, then Name. I can serve you better if I don't have to take the time to research the Div and Flot numbers.

Proctors — please check for any exams you still have. They are not hard to spot with a bright yellow cover. Your time and mine is valuable and I wouldn't have to send out letters.

The AUXOP Program is tough, but not impossible. It is supposed to be! Most things we consider worthwhile require some time and study. After completing the AUXOP Program we should be among the most knowledgeable people in the boating community.

LOTS OF DECALS!

I did not hear of anyone running short of decals! If there was a shortage, more decals were not requested.

It will be interesting to see the final results of our 2003 VSC Season. I think the number of VSC's will be more than 2002.

At the last District Meeting I awarded certificates from the National VE to EIGHT of our Flotillas that placed in 100 Flotillas in the Auxiliary for the most VSC's in 2002! We received some recognition!

Buoy 13

Fall-Winter 2003

I am a curious person so I decided to look a little deeper. It turns out that District 13 has 5% of the total membership in the Auxiliary. Also the records show we completed 6% of the total VSC's for 2002. The real news — 8% of our Flotillas were in the top 100 in the Auxiliary! CONGRATULATIONS FOR YOUR EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE!

I have sent the order blanks to the SO-VE for the 2004 decals. SO-VE — please forward to the Flotillas. The procedure is the same as the last two years. The FC or the FSO-MA can send the order to ANSC for the INITIAL supply of decals. The INITIAL supply will be based on 100% of the VSC's in 2002. If your supply of decals starts to run low, additional decals can be ordered. There will be plenty of decals. SO-VE — please order your reserve supply per the order form. If the decals arrive at your Flotilla or Division and your staff officer has changed, PLEASE make sure the NEW Staff Officer gets the decals for distribution to the VE's.



Awards and Certificates

by Dan Neiderhiser

I would like to thank the Auxiliary members who have taken the time to recognize others within your flotilla by way of award submittals to the District Awards Committee (VCO-13, RCO's). In addition, ya'll should note that during the September 2003 awards luncheon, the certificates fully organized, designed, and printed were done so by Jack and June Feather. You should also note that because of June, Jack, and Bob Mell, we no longer have to use photographs from other Districts for our certificate background. The 70-plus certificates presented had a District 13 operational facility on all of them (Southern Area photo). Although I keep asking, we only received two usable photographs that could be used as background on the certificates. What I would like to see are action photos from each Area so the certificates will have an action shot from the respective Area for whom the certificate is to be awarded.

If you have any, especially digital, please send them to Jack or June Feather at junerco@charter.net or dsove13@charter.net





RCO-S
June E. Feather

At the last District meeting it was gratifying to see so many awards presented. I know there are a lot more deserving members out there. The awards process usually starts with a member in the flotilla. The member writes the information down and gives it to the Flotilla Commander for input. Some information on awards can be found in the Flotilla Commander's Handbook. The Flotilla Commander sends the award through the Chain of Leadership and it eventually goes to the Awards Committee.

One of the awards available is the National Growth Award. This award goes to the DSO-PS, Carol Grassl who will forward it to National. The form for 2002 can be found on the Internet under forms. If you look at this form now you will find out the information you will need to complete it. The new form will be on the Internet in November or December for 2003. The information for this form can be found in AUXDATA on January 1st. The date on the form is January 20th (it has to be at National by that date). Be sure to turn in the form to Carol as early as possible so she will have time to get it to National by the deadline.

Email is a convenient and quick way to communicate. When you change your email be sure to notify the people in your address book. Please remember to give this information to your SO-IS for input into AUXDATA. A new directory will be available at the next District meeting. Please check with your Flotilla Commander (if she/he have a password) to make sure the directory information is correct. Your FSO-IS should also have a password for AUXDATA. If either of these people cannot access AUXDATA, the information can be obtained from the SO-IS.

I want to thank all of you for the work you are doing for District 13. Working together we can make District 13 a premier District.



Adobe Free Upgrade

by **Martin L. Phillips**
Executive Director CG Auxiliary Association

Adobe is working to provide the promised free upgrade to v6.0 Professional and plans to ship a free CD-ROM to those Auxiliary members who purchased the v5.0 Adobe Acrobat license and 2-year maintenance agreement prior to May 27, 2003. Adobe uploaded the licenses for those orders into their system on June 18, 2003. Adobe indicated they will now generate upgrade coupons and provide those coupons to Softchoice who will handle the upgrading of the licenses. They plan to send the CD-ROM to each of those purchasers since the upgrade software is over 300MB compared to the 100MB of the v5.0. Softchoice will make available through their web site the v6.0. Adobe Acrobat license key for use by our members when they receive the v6.0 CD-ROM media from Adobe for installation. Adobe expects to accomplish this process in the next four to six weeks.

Adobe is allowing Softchoice to continue with the special offer only for the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to purchase the v5.0 Adobe Acrobat with the 2-year maintenance agreement and still receive the free upgrade to v6.0 Pro for those purchases from May 27th through September 30th. However, the free upgrade will not be provided to those purchasers until October.

Anyone not wanting to wait until the free upgrade CD-ROM is made available will still have the option to procure the CD-ROM from Softchoice's commercial stock via their web site or by calling 1-877-333-7638.

The other Adobe products displayed on the Softchoice web site remain available to members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary under the Government CLP program. As a reminder, assistance may be obtained from Softchoice when you experience problems by calling 1-877-333-7638.





Katy Zundel
RCO-E

Rear Commodore – East Report for Buoy 13

In this, my final report, I want to talk about my 3 Divisions 8, 10 and 11, and their great division meetings. I have been very fortunate to attend most of them, and enjoyed the experience. I have found a great camaraderie within the divisions. Many members have been attending for years and are like families. I greatly appreciated being included in all the activities and fun nights.

Of foremost importance at the division meetings were their training sessions. I have been privileged to attend everything from POMS, Operations Workshop, Operations on Water Training, IS paper work, Auxinfo and Recruiting. Division 8 even had a competition at their spring meeting, which pitted teams against each other in Operations Tasks. It was fun and they allowed me to take part as one of the station sign off people. This was very interesting and inventive.

All three Captains were very well prepared; the meetings had good management and kept to their agendas. Two of these Captains -- Dennis Hoppman of 8, and Deanea Favillo of 11, are returning for a second term, but Charlotte Van Dyke of 10 is finishing her second year. Newly elected Bob Berge will replace her.

All the divisions have a Friday night get together. For the most part these include enough snacks and beverages so that you don't really want nor need dinner. Division 11 will have an Oktoberfest on Friday night at their fall division get together. These get togethers also make a good mixer for new members or new division meeting attendees. It's a great way to catch up with your friends around the division.

All the divisions are trying to cut banquet and meal costs to their members, as with the high costs numbers were dropping. Some are getting inventive.

Division 11 did an outdoor potluck at their summer meeting, and is skipping the Saturday night dinner for the fall meeting. Division 8 had their fall meeting at the Coast Guard Station in Kennewick and the Saturday night dinner was a great barbecue. These were very inexpensive compared to hotel banquet costs.

I feel saddened not being able to attend next year's division meetings, but I am sure Al Wonenberg will do a great job. I hope to see you all at future District 13 Meetings.



Eastern Area Report

By Al Wonenberg RCO-E (elect)

The eastern area is very unique. Some say it is a vast area of nothing -- that's not true. Idaho, Montana and the eastern part of Washington and Oregon have lots to offer; desert, water, mountains, water, trees and water. Oh, did I mention water? This is the land of recreational paradise with the rivers, lakes and reservoirs ... you can float any thing from a cruise ship to a kayak. In some cases in reservoirs when the tide is out, its out for five months. And when the current in the river is running it may be 20 knots.

We don't see much of the Coast Guard this far inland, but we do deal with the local sheriffs and marine deputies. There have been many times I have delivered fire fighters to hard to get to places on lakes and reservoirs to fight wild fires. Auxiliarists and their facilities standby while helicopters pick up water in their buckets to douse the fires.

About a month ago Jacque and Penny (Wonenberg) did some bridge inspections on the Snake River west of Lewiston, ID by auto. Taking a little closer look at one of the bridges at Lyons Ferry on the Snake River we decided to walk next to the river -- there was a warning sign to watch out for rattle snakes. At the next bridge to the east a cruise ship was passing under it from its trip up the Columbia and Snake Rivers on the way to Lewiston, ID.

Auxiliary members have to travel many miles -- sometimes 100 to 300 miles -- to attend a division and flotilla meetings. We Can Do It.





**DIRECTOR OF
AUXILIARY**

LCDR Kelly A. Boodell

ARE YOU WORTH IT?

The alarm next to Bill's bed was buzzing at an unbelievably early hour. He made his way into the kitchen to pour himself some hot coffee while he listened to the weather. Today he was going to meet the rest of the crew and go out on a patrol for the Coast Guard Auxiliary. Bill was wondering what the weather would be like, whether it would rain, whether he would have the right gear for his patrol. It was a cold, wet and windy morning.

Bill has been in the Auxiliary for quite awhile; he found it personally rewarding because it was his way of supporting his community, the boating public and of course his country. Besides, Bill really enjoyed being out on the water. The people that Bill had met along the way have been sincere and true; the opportunities that he has had to mentor and to be mentored have been real. Bill has watched the organization change with time. Ordinarily those organizational changes didn't impact him much -- he just liked to patrol, and teach boating safety classes.

When Bill got down to the marina, his crew was waiting. While they patrolled, they discussed the Auxiliary, the general missions of the CG and how its focus had changed. As Bill tied his boat back up in her slip, one of his crewmembers teased him about all of the paperwork that he was behind on. Bill commented, yeah yeah, I'll fill out those #% & 99's later. In his own defense Bill retorted that it was a waste of time, nothing ever comes from filling out those ridiculous forms anyhow.

The next morning Bill got an excited call from one of his pals! He was all worked up about one of the other Areas in the District getting a Coast Guard Owned and Maintained Auxiliary Operated Facility. The nerve of that Director! Doesn't she know how busy we are in our corner of the District? How badly we need more facilities in order to help the Coast

Guard fulfill its missions? Doesn't that Director pay any attention?

At his next Division meeting the Division Captain came back from the District meeting with the entire flat bed of his pick up full with gear. There were dozens of bright orange Anti-Exposure suits (PPE), there were PEPiRB's (personal epiRB's), radios -- it was like the holidays hit early! Everyone went home with something. Except Bill and a few other folks -- Hmmm.

Shortly after the Division meeting, Bill put in a request to patrol like he always did. His crew was particularly interested because they wanted to wear their new gear. Funny thing happened though. Bill didn't get his patrol orders. In fact his SO-OPS called him and said that she couldn't issue him orders because his Certifications had lapsed. Do you think Bill was STEAMED! You bet! Who the heck are they? Don't they know how many hours he had patrolled this year? How much money he had spent out of his own pocket? Bill thought that it was bad enough that everyone around him seemed to have gotten PPE and he didn't -- and now this!

Without even thinking, Bill walked over to the phone and called his Flotilla Commander He described in colorful detail how he had become the victim of paperwork.

Since Bill was a pretty likeable fellow, his FC called the people in charge of Operations (OPS), Public Education (PE), and Member Training (MT). His Flotilla Commander explained that they must now get involved to help fix a problem that would never have happened if only Bill had taken the time to complete his paperwork.

The next time that Bill saw his SO-IS, the SO-IS made a snide remark to Bill. The SO-IS said something to the effect that he hoped Bill enjoyed his Thanksgiving dinner and the patrol that he did the following week, because he (the SO-IS) had spent all of Thanksgiving day entering Bill's mission activity for what seemed like an entire year, just so that Bill could maintain his hard earned qualifications. Feeling a little guilty, Bill thanked him and went to mingle with some other people in a different part of the room.

Shortly after that encounter, there was a Change of Watch Ceremony that Bill attended. The usual cast of characters was there: the District

Continued on page 13

WELCOME TO THE PAST CAPTAINS ASSOCIATION

Jack Grubb, PPCA

What is the Past Captains Association (PCA)? The PCA is a group of Auxiliarists who have served as Division Captain and then joined the Association. There are Standing Rules that govern the activities of the PCA. To be eligible to join an Auxiliarist must have completed one term as DCP. To join just indicate your interest and you will be welcome. There are, of course, certain obligations, i.e., a \$5.00 initiation fee and the yearly dues are \$5.00 payable by 31 May each year.

The PCA holds a breakfast meeting Sunday morning at each District Meeting. While this is called the Past Captains Breakfast all interested members are welcome to attend. Needless to say only members of the PCA may vote on business matters brought before the Association.

All Auxiliarists present are welcome to express their opinions and suggestions.

What does the PCA do? The Association is involved in several activities, i.e.; hosting the District Commodores Open House following Friday Fun Night, sharing our experience and expertise in response to questions raised by Division Captains, recognizing a Division and individual members with awards. The PCA Awards program is:

1. David E. Hill Memorial Award. This award is presented annually, at the winter District Meeting, to the one Auxiliarist who has been active in all of the following programs: Operations, Public Education, Member Training and Vessel Examination during the preceding year. The winner is determined by applying a point formula to the activity numbers recorded in AUXDATA for the member.

2. Outstanding Captain of the Year. This award is presented at the winter District Meeting, to recognize a Division Captain "for achievements that have improved his/her division and which have extended beyond the call of a captain's duty." This is not an annual award and will only be awarded to a Captain for action at the conclusion of their final year in office.

3. Vessel Examination (VSC) Belt Buckle Award. Presented to every Auxiliarist who completes 200 or more Vessel Safety Checks and Facility Examinations in a calendar year. The award is a regular Auxiliary Belt buckle, without Auxiliary

emblem, on which has been affixed a metal miniature "Seal of Safety." When a recipient again completes 200 VSC's and facility exams in a year a 3/16" gold star will be awarded for affixing to the buckle.

4. Mileage Award. The PCA created a trophy to be presented to the Division whose members have traveled the most miles to attend the District Meeting. Mileage is counted from the Flotilla meeting location and only non-funded (traveling at their own expense) members are to be counted.

Hope to see all next February in Clackamas, OR.



[Ed: The byline for J. Umbarger FL-85 FSO was unintentionally omitted from the article in the last issue of Buoy 13 on Dan Neiderhiser ("District Commodore doubles as full time Paralegal/Legal Assistant") from Fluor Hanford Inc. PA provided the article and photo. Buoy 13 regrets the omission.]



New Coxswains — Congratulations

Douglas A. Bucher, FL84

Robert D. Kesson, FL84

Alan D. Kremer, FL87

Charles W. Lindenberg, FL11

Mary J. Neil, FL11

Richard A. Wiltse Sr., FL82

John S. Yeckel, FL48

VISION STATEMENT

District 13 Auxiliary will continue to promote and fulfill its obligation of the Four Cornerstones; provide real-time commitment of people and resources in support of the Department of Homeland Security; Recreational Boating Safety; and the USCG.

GOALS

Revitalize and retain membership by offering challenging activities that offer growth, safety, and excellence thus leading to rewarding satisfaction.

Direct our strengths in the Member Training program to revitalize and recruit new members to our District.

- Continue use of DSO's for training at Division and Area meetings.
- Provide annual alternating training in leadership/management, and staff officer training.
- Continue to offer incentive Auxiliary recruitment to 17 and 18 year old men and women, leading to a rewarding career in the USCG and Auxiliary.
- Promote youthful membership through PWC and Paddle Craft Programs.
- Promote Boating Safety.
- Protect our coastal and inland waters through observation, and reporting suspicious activities in support of Homeland Security
- Promote training at flotilla, division, and district level.
- Increase our Vessel Safety Check numbers, Patrol hours, and Public Education classes.
- Continue flotilla education via electronic means for expediency and quick results while promoting the Mentor Program to build confidence and teamwork.
- Continue to partner, interact, and network with USCG Groups, Stations, and Units through use of Auxiliary Liaison Officers.
-

Have Fun, Enjoy Each Others Company, and Be Safe In All That We Do!



Neiderhiser: Continued from page 3

By the way, the District 13 Training Conferences and Area Training Conferences are intended for our general membership, not just District Officers. The Training Conferences are shifted around the District to make it more convenient for the general membership to attend whichever portion of, or all of, the conference they choose to attend. If you live in the area of the conference and just want to stop by to visit the Materials Center, or a specific meeting, or attend the Past Captains Breakfast Meeting, etc., you are certainly welcome aboard. The conferences are intended to support the membership, as are I, DIRUAX, and our District Commander. This is also true for our detachment members and retirees.

Many things were accomplished in 2003, and each of you have much to be proud of, so take a few days off, enjoy your families and have a great Holiday Season!



ISAR -- We Done Good!

**By Gail Ramsey, National Vice Commodore,
Pacific Area**

Hot off the press. Final awards happened 1/2 hour ago. The overall for ISAR 2003 was won by the Canadians ... but we sure made them work for it. They were from Newfoundland, and as great as they have been to us I am glad they won. But, PACAREA kicked butt! Both D13 and D14 did great. Both worked hard, had a good time and made themselves, the USA, you and me very proud.

Steve Budar was picked for an International team that was made up of two Americans and one Canadian. Their team won the International Heaving Line event, the Marlinspike International event as well as the International Mystery Event. So Steve is bringing home three plaques for the home team. Bruce was the most entertaining competitor there. The Canadians are still wondering what the "hang loose" hand signal is and why did Bruce keep talking about surfboards. Christy was picked for an International team also, she had fun, drank a bit of sea water but is A-OK. The number one USA team for SAR Planning was D13. The number one USA team for the #2 heaving line was D13. The number one OVERALL USA team was D13.

A BRAVE SAILOR HAS CROSSED THE BAR

by B. J. Schiesswohl FC 22

Former Navy seaman and fellow Auxiliarist Richard A. "Rick" Day passed to the other side at 0010 hours, Sunday 29 June 2003 after a long battle with cancer. He was surrounded by the comforting presence of family and friends.

Rick was a current member of Flotilla 22 and formerly of Flotilla 25. Rick's widow, Elizabeth Day, FSO-PA 22, is probably best known for her USCGA volunteer services to the U.S. Coast Guard as Ombudsman Coordinator serving the needs of Active Duty Coast Guard personnel associated with Coast Guard Seattle.

Rick was FSO-MS 22 at the time of his death and continuously apologetic that he could not do yet more, despite the chronic misery of his chemo and radiation therapies. He did all he could with his limited strength to assist marine safety and security and environmental education. He was also an active volunteer with the American Red Cross for whom he taught a variety of safety and prevention classes. His whole life had been one of public service. Before joining the Auxiliary he had retired after 27 years with the Seattle Police Department and for several years conducted security courses for major cruise ship lines. In 2001 he presented a highly important course to the U.S. Coast Guard in Alaska. He was tried and true and the Auxiliary will miss the contribution and fellowship of such a fine man.

Farewell Rick. May God speed your journey with smooth seas and following winds.



Boodell: Continued from page 9

Commodore, his Vice, the Division Captain, all of the Flotilla Commanders and that Director. Bill considered going over to tell her that she really needed to spend more time in his Area so that she would have a clue how hard the folks in his division were working. Bill was still a bit annoyed about that boat going to that other Area. So, he stewed ... till he could stand it no more. Before he knew it words were coming out. Bill complained about all of the reports he was expected to make. All of the forms he was required to fill out. How he now had to use POMS, how he could no longer call the Directors office for Orders -- and oh yeah, that mess about his Certifications lapsing. Aux data ... phooey!

The Director stood there and listened. Yes, she actually listened without interrupting. When Bill had finally finished venting, quite a crowd of people had gathered.

The Director smiled and said bluntly, "you know Bill, I like you but this is not a yacht club. It is an organization that is founded upon respect for one another. I cannot accept what any of you are saying. Sure you saved yourselves time by not filling out your paperwork, but your selfishness shows a significant disregard for the other members in your flotilla. How many others had to become involved in your problem because you decided that you weren't going to cooperate like everyone else? It is just disrespectful. But, even more importantly, is the impact on the district at large when you fail to document your activity, that failure has a huge meaning. How do you expect me to be an advocate for you? How do you expect me to be able to justify the needs in your corner of the district if they aren't documented? When there is no record of the classes you teach, or, the hours that you patrol, who do you think that hurts? It hurts you and this entire District." The Director went on to say that she could be a great advocate when there was something worth advocating for.

The Director asked Bill and the assembled crowd if they didn't document their activity, what documentation would she be able to use to support, demonstrate and justify a need to the Coast Guard. The Director went on. She said that if the Auxiliary wanted something from the Coast Guard, they

would have to demonstrate to the CG that there would be a benefit to them by making that investment in the Auxiliary.

Bill had obviously touched one of her hot buttons because her face was getting red -- she was getting loud. Everyone could tell that she was very passionate about this issue. She pleaded: "It's your numbers that make the difference! When you record what you do, I can use those figures as a basis to argue what else the Auxiliary needs to build and to support this program in this great district! Don't expect your Commodore or I to be able to effectively fight your battles, if you do not give us the ammunition to fight with!"

Bill was a little surprised at the reaction of his crazy director, but internally he conceded to himself that she really did have a point. So, he decided to change his ways. From that point on he was a perfect Auxiliarist. He always reported all of his activity and helped newer members fill theirs out. In fact, Bill even ensured that every member in his flotilla stayed current with their reports so that his SO-IS officer could enjoy Thanksgiving with his family. Bill was so good that he was even issued an Anti Exposure suit and a PEPERB.

And, everyone lived happily ever after.



New Officers for 2004

Congratulations and welcome aboard to our newly elected and appointed officers who will complement our current officers through 2004. Congratulations to:

Newly Elected Officers

Al Wonenberg, RCO-E (elect)
 Ted Schiesswohl, DCP-2 (elect)
 Shaheed Ali Sheikh, DCP-3 (elect)
 Frank Ramer, DCP-5 (elect)
 Danny Dail, DCP-6 (elect)
 To Be Announced, DCP-7 (elect)
 Bob Berge, DCP-10 (elect)

Newly Appointed District Staff Officers for 2004:

JoAnn M. Grubb, D-AA
 Ed Margolis, DSO-AN
 Thomas Miller, DSO-CS
 In search of Diversity officer, ADSO-PS-DA
 In search of Secretary of Records, DSO-SR

Auxiliarists and Homeland Security

LT Randy Waddington and J. B. Hall, VFC-45

Homeland Security is not only the name of the Cabinet Department that is the Coast Guard's new home, it is also a primary mission at Marine Safety Office Puget Sound, and Auxiliarists are full participants in the execution of this mission. One of the security enhancements implemented since September 11, 2001 is the requirement for commercial vessels to provide Advance Notice of Arrival (ANOA or just NOA) to the Coast Guard prior to entry to U. S. ports.

NOA's contain information about the ship's nationality, crew, cargo and ports visited, and are submitted to the Coast Guard National Vessel Movement Center and entered into a central database called the Ship Arrival Notification System. Local Marine Safety Offices, including MSO Puget Sound, access and analyze the information for each vessel. This information combined with other intelligence and conventional marine safety information is used to determine appropriate controls for vessels arriving in our port and is also shared with other agencies, including fellow Department of Homeland Security agencies.

During this past summer, Mary Ann Chapman, Staff Officer -- Marine Safety -- Division 2, recruited several Auxiliary members to staff the Vessel Security Screening Team at MSO Puget Sound. Auxiliary members maintain and update screening records for over 3,000 vessels a year working hand in hand with active duty Coast Guard members. Their end evaluation provides important vessel arrival information for outlying Coast Guard units and other Homeland Security agencies. This function is critical to maintaining effective Maritime Domain Awareness. The Vessel Security Screening Team at MSO Puget Sound as of October 2003 now includes Auxiliarists Mike Bracken, David Erickson, J. B. Hall, Glenn McCauley and Gene Rubbert. There is room for a few more volunteers, so if you have good computer skills and are available at least one day per week, contact J. B. Hall at j.b.hall@charter.net or 360-871-8198.

Auxiliarists are also playing a key role in conducting shore-side harbor patrols, licensing

mariners, building websites for improved outreach, and being a part of the Port Security Committee Meetings for the Puget Sound area. If you have an interest in being a part of any of the MSO Functions please contact Mary Ann Chapman, Staff Officer -- Marine Safety -- division 2 at mchapman@pacnorwest.uscg.mil.



Updated Aux News: NAPM

Dan Neiderhiser

On 26 October 2003, I returned from the National Area Planning Meeting (NAPM) at the US Naval Submarine Base, San Diego, CA., with quite a bit of information for our District. Here are a few items of interest:

- * Auxiliary Manual Coming Soon.
- * Catastrophic damage criteria being worked.
- * Operations Manual a month or two behind the Auxiliary Manual.
- * RBS remains a very important topic for the USCG Auxiliary. Much of our focus since 9/11 has been toward Operations and support to the USCG. We need to re-focus back to the RBS Programs of VSC's and Boating Education.
- * Background checks. As the leading volunteer organization in the Department of Homeland Security, the Auxiliary role has increased in "Direct Operational and Operational Support." With it goes responsibility and the need for background security checks and fingerprints. You will receive mailed information on this multiple year program during December 2003. So be looking for it.
- * In the December/January time frame, the Auxiliary Personnel Allowance List (AUXPAL) will be made available to the membership. This is in case MARSEC is upgraded, or because of an earthquake, or surge operations occur drawing the Auxiliary into action to further support the USCG.



State Legislative Up-Date

OREGON: Bill Foote Reports:

The two bills I am following, still in committees, are: HB 2247, Increases and modifies fee structure for registration, and SB 174, Reduces penalty for minor boating violations.

WASHINGTON: Bonnie Harding Reports:

SB 5898, This is the "in" to "Mandatory Education." This is a brief summary:

"Because of the number of recreational boating accidents, fatalities, and near misses on the waters of this state, the Washington State Legislature believes there is a need to provide for safer recreational boating practices. The legislature therefore directs the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Boating Safety Advisory Council to research and recommend ways to reduce boating accidents. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission shall investigate a variety of methods to achieve safer boating practices, including a program of Mandatory Safe Boater Education.

The Washington Boating Safety Advisory Council has a lot of work to do. We will be listening to the Washington Alliance for Mandatory Boater Education suggestions. June 27th will be the first meeting to consider the details of SB 5898. Our legislative session for Washington is over for 2003.

MONTANA: Dean Culwell Reports:

Immunity for private associations marking obstructions in waterways. This bill would allow a person or non-profit organization to place a sign or marker (including white plastic milk jugs) warning of a hazard in water legally accessible to the public. The bill was amended to apply only to state waters based on USCG comments.

Registration decal as evidence of fee payment for vehicles and vessels. This bill would impose a one-time fee (rather than an annual fee) for a motorboat (or snowmobile, ATV or motorcycle) registration decal. It was transmitted to Governor.

Reduce DUI blood alcohol level to .08. This bill would reduce the BAL from .10 to .08 to ensure federal highway aid funds are not reduced. The lower level would likely be applied to boat operators. Signed by Governor.

Fund search and rescue with certain fees: This bill would add a 50-cent charge on motorboat, snowmobile and ATV fee-in-lieu of tax to create a fund for county search and rescue operations, training and equipment. Signed by Governor.

Person floating designated portions of Missouri River to wear life preserver. This bill would require that all persons (regardless of age) wear a life preserver on the Missouri River from Coal Banks landing to Fort Peck dam. The bill applies to non-motorized vessels and would expire January 1, 2007. It is tied explicitly to the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. Indefinitely postponed.

Funding for managing water-based recreation. This bill would increase the motorboat decal fee from \$3.50 to \$6.50 and create a non-motorized boat (canoes, kayaks, rafts, drift boats) decal fee of \$5.00. Non-motorized boats would not be registered nor need a HIN or hull number. Fees would be used for MT DFWP fishing access site maintenance and operation, education and enforcement. Died in the House.

End of 2003 Session Report



Seattle-Elliott Bay Flotilla 24 Name Change

by Ted D. Fletcher

What's in a name? A great deal, if you want to know where to find a flotilla.

Have you ever looked at sales ads and thought you knew where the store was, simply from the name? Consider a store with a geographical name referencing a location in West Seattle. You might think that you would find it in that section of Seattle. But the name could be misleading, because there may be nineteen different stores up and down the West Coast.

The same was true for Flotilla 24, "West Seattle." Several years ago the West Seattle community was involved in the formation of Flotilla 24. Today, its membership surrounds its patrol area, Elliott Bay. To better identify the area in which the flotilla serves and meets, members decided that a name change was needed. The new name "Seattle-Elliott Bay" should help those in nearby longitudes and latitudes better identify the location of Flotilla 24.

Salmon Fishing Season

By Jack Bradbury

Ensign Tony Kenne, Asst. Surface Operations Supervisor at Coast Guard Group Astoria, provides the following statistics as of the last day of the Buoy 10 Salmon Fishing Season. Coast Guard Auxiliarists participated on both sides of the Mouth of the Columbia River at the various launching ramps and Marinas.

Under the leadership of Joyce Wilson, Fl.64, on the Oregon side and Roberta Siefert, Fl.62, on the Washington side, 52 Auxiliarists and two members of the U S Power Squadron worked the docks during the Season offering safety information and Vessel Safety Checks to the Fishermen and Women.

Approximately 12,060 information bags were handed out. There were 8540 Boats launched from the Oregon side and 5000 plus from the Washington side. 1143 Vessel safety checks were given with many boats acquiring the needed Safety equipment to pass the checks.

This intense effort helped again in keeping fatalities at this Fishery down to only one. This is very similar to the first year (2002.) Approximately 1620 Auxiliary hours were worked in support of this Safety initiative.



What's New?

Marine Dealer Visitation Program.

by Bill Edgerton, NACO

Last week decisions were made concerning the reengineering proposals and concepts for the

Marine Dealer Visitation Program. The new program will be titled Recreational Boating Safety Visitation Program and qualified visitors will be designated as Program Visitors. The scope of the program will be expanded to any community or business facility that is frequented by recreational boaters. With this expansion the Program Manager deems it essential to increase the number of Visitors. Accordingly, at the direction of the Coast Guard Program Manager, the United States Power Squadrons will be brought on board as providers of the program. Similar to the reengineered VSC program,

MOUs will be written naming the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary as the National Director, and Executive Agent for the Coast Guard, in administering the revised program. Revised implementation plans for the new program will be rolled out not later than the January 2004 national meetings for the USCGA and USPS.



The Box

By Dean Lindemann

I knew the day would come, that he would pack "the box". It wasn't so much what he put in it or how he packed it. It was just a cardboard box; it was what "the box" meant.

It wasn't like I didn't know that he was going to pack it, he talked about it for a couple of years now so I wasn't surprised when he showed up at the front door to the station with "the box."

I knew right away what it was and realized what it meant. We all will pack "the box" one day each in our own time. His time had come.

I told him to put that box back in his car because I wasn't going to let him bring it in, like I could stop him after he packed "the box." He just stood there with that speckled cheesy grin on his face and said, "Yeah, I need to."

All during our meeting I kept thinking that I would be able to say something profound, witty, inspirational even, that would make a difference and he would change his mind and take the box back home for just a little while longer. But nothing came to mind.

Maybe it was because I secretly envied him and where he was in his life. Retired after a successful career, the kids all grown and well on their own. That big boat awaiting him at the helm bound for places he and the wife had dreamed about. No I couldn't begrudge him that, he earned it fair and square.

What I did remember was that he was always there to step in and get things done.

How he always came in to the room with that grin, like he had just heard the best joke and was about to lay it on you.

He is my idea of a mentor, always there to help and guide. There to show you how to setup your

Continued on page 17

**DISTRICT TRAINING MEETING
FEBRUARY 2004**

Division 7 invites you "To the heart of Oregon Territory." Oregon became a state February 14, 1859. The seat of government was in Oregon City, not far from Clackamas. Please come help us celebrate Oregon's 144th birthday. Come dressed as your favorite western or historical figure. Join the party and let's have some fun. The Friday Fun Night theme will be "Be Our Valentine."

The Winter District Training Conference will be held at the Monarch Hotel, Clackamas, Oregon, February 20, 21, 22, 2004. The hotel is located just off I-205. The Clackamas Town Center, a large shopping mall is located just across the street and next door to the Clackamas Promenade Complex. Besides the in-house restaurant and lounge there are a variety of restaurants in the area, several within walking distance. The hotel is offering to the Auxiliary members the same room rate of \$66.00 single and \$76.00 double for three days before and three days after the conference. The hotel offers free shuttle service to and from the malls and Portland International Airport.

If you choose to fly into Portland International Airport the hotel offers you free shuttle service. They ask that you pick up your luggage first and then call the toll free 1-800-492-8700 for pickup.

There is an agenda and registration form in this edition of Buoy 13. Please note the date of hotel reservations, January 18, 2003. It is important that Jo Ann Grubb, D-AA, receive all registrations no later than February 12, 2004.

There will be a Breakfast Buffet Saturday morning, open at 0600. This will give everyone plenty of time to have a leisurely breakfast and be at the meeting on time.

Happy Holidays to you and your family. Looking forward to seeing you at Clackamas in February. Come join in the fellowship and training from N-Train 2004.

Jo Ann Grubb, DSO-AA/AD
Driving directions to the Monarch Hotel:

1. Traveling North on Hwy I-205: Take Sunnyside Road Exit #14. Turn left onto Sunnyside Road at the top of the off-ramp. Go to the second stop light and turn left. This is 93rd Avenue and will

lead to the entrance of the Monarch parking lot.

2. Traveling South on Hwy I- 205: Take the Sunnyside Road Exit #14. Turn right onto Sunnyside Road at the top of the off-ramp merging into the far left lane. Turn left at the first stoplight. This is 93rd Avenue and will lead you in the entrance of the Monarch parking lot.



The Box: Continued from page 16

equipment without coming out and saying it. But letting you discover the right way. He didn't get angry or disgusted even when he took an unexpected dunk in the water, or at least he never showed it.

We gave him a couple of well-deserved laurels at our last meeting for doing what he did best, stepping up, filling in and getting things done and all the while "the box." lay at his feet.

At the end of our meeting I just shook his hand and thanked him for being my mentor and friend.

"The Box" was placed on the shelf in our locker, the neatly folded uniforms and insignias, the hats and pins all waiting for the next generation of Auxiliarist to step up and get things done.

So all that is left to be said, is thank you, my friend for stepping up and getting things done, we'll take care of "The Box."



Auxiliarist of the Year Honored



Rob Wells of Flotilla 11 was honored as Auxiliarist of the Year for the year 2002 at the District Meeting held at Olympia September 2003.

Wells was honored at his division

meeting in March 2003.

Future awardees of the District 13 Auxiliarist of the Year will receive "orders" to attend both District meetings, attend their Area Meeting and participate in an incentive cruise.

13th DISTRICT U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY TRAINING CONFERENCE

20, 21, 22 FEBRUARY 2004, THE MONARCH HOTEL, CLACKAMAS, OR.

Thursday 19 February

Travel day for EXCOM

1400 - 1600 EXCOM Meeting	Multnoma Room
1500 - Materials Center Set Up	Columbia Room
1610 - 1710 Awards Committee Meeting	Multnoma Room

Friday 20 February

Travel day for Board and Staff

0800 - 1100 EXCOM Meeting	Multnoma Room
1000 - 1700 Registration OPEN	Lobby
1100 - 1200 Ways & Means Committee Meeting	Multnoma Room
1200 - 1315 Lunch on your own	
1300 - 1700 Materials Center OPEN	Columbia Room
1315 - 1515 Board Meeting (open to observe by Membership)	Clackamas Room
1530 - 1600 Ask the Brass (open forum)	Clackamas Room
1615 - 1730 RCO's meet with DCP's	Clackamas Room
1615 - 1730 DSO's/ADSO's meet with VCO	Troutdale Room
1615 - 1730 One-on-one with Jeff Mahl and Peter Kirschner, DSO-IS	Sandy Room
1800 - 1830 No Host Social	Monarch Hall-West
1830 - 2100 Fun Night Banquet Theme: "Be Our Valentine"	
2100 - 2215 Commodores Open House, Hosted by Past Captain's Association	Room 242-243

Saturday 21 February

0800 - 0945 Convene General Membership Meeting	Monarch Hall-East
Presentation of the Colors	
Pledge of Allegiance	
Invocation, Crossing the Bar	
Introduction of Head Table and Guests	
Roll call of the Bridge, Board and Staff	
Head table and Guest remarks	
RCO's and Staff Sworn In	
0945 - 1000 Break	
1000 - 1115 Computer Technology with Jeff Mahl, DC-Id, National Staff	
1130 - 1315 Awards Luncheon incl. ISAR Team	Monarch Hall West
1315 - 1515 Operations Workshop	Monarch Hall East
1515 - 1730 N-Train Training update PE -CM-VE-MS	Willamette Room
1515 - 1730 N-Train Training update AV-CC -PS- CS	Sandy Room
1800 - 1830 No Host Social	Monarch Hall West
1830 - 2100 Awards Banquet	Monarch Hall West
Guest Speaker RADM Garrett	

Note: Materials Center open Saturday from 0900 to 1130 and from 1315 to 1700

Sunday 22 February

0800 - 0930 Past Captains Breakfast (Open to all)	Sandy Room
0930 - 1000 EXCOM Out Brief	Sandy Room

Uniform of the Day:

Thursday, Friday and Sunday: Casual Civilian Attire

Saturday Meeting: Tropical Blue Long, Service Dress Blue Bravo

Saturday Evening: Dinner Dress Blue Jacket, Dinner Dress Blue, or Appropriate Civilian Attire.

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Training/Conference

District Thirteen Meeting
Monarch Hotel, Clackamas, Oregon
20, 21, 22 February 2004

I am enclosing my check for \$_____ made payable to "13th Coast Guard Auxiliary." Mail to: Jo Ann Grubb, D-AA, 327 Logger Ct. SE, Olympia, WA 98503. Questions? Please call 360-438-6848 or e-mail joann2427@joimail.com

Registration Fee \$5.00 per person x _____ = _____
(all those attending any function)

"Fun Night"

Roast Pork, topped with mushrooms, tomatoes, garlic/brandy sauce \$19.00 x _____ = _____
Served with red potatoes

Filet of Halibut, grilled, topped with Chardonnay butter, \$22.00 x _____ = _____
Served with garlic sautéed spinach with herbed pasta

"Saturday Luncheon"

Chicken Champignon, topped with mushroom & white wine sauce \$13.00 x _____ = _____
Served with rice pilaf

"Saturday Banquet"

Prime Rib, twice baked potatoes, horseradish sauce \$24.00 x _____ = _____

Pacific Salmon, grilled with tarragon sauce with rice pilaf \$24.00 x _____ = _____

Note: All meals above are served with salad, vegetables, rolls, beverage and dessert

"Past Captains Breakfast"

Country Breakfast, scrambled eggs, breakfast potatoes, \$10.00 x _____ = _____
ham, muffin and beverage

TOTAL \$_____

If you have special dietary needs please indicate here.

Dinner reservations with check must be received by February 12, 2004. Please send your registration early.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone # (____) _____ Email _____

Make hotel reservation with: Monarch Hotel and Conference Center

12566 SE Ninety-Third Avenue, Clackamas, OR 97015

Phone 1-800-492-8700. This is a direct line to the hotel. The Group Name is "Coast Guard Auxiliary District Thirteen." The room rates are \$66.00 Single or \$76.00 Double Occupancy

Hotel reservation deadline: January 18, 2004

After that date, rates will increase.



U. S. Department of Homeland Security

United States Coast Guard

DSO-PB 13th District
59 Tarte Road
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

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